

Carleton Place Herald.

VOL. XV.

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No. 39.

The Soldiers of the Plough.

No mown drom, nor fancy theme,
Brown Labour's muse would sing;
Her steady mien and russet shen
Demand a stronger wing.
Long ago since, the sage, the prince,
The man of lordly brow,
All honour gave that army brave,
The soldiers of the plough.
Kind heaven speed the plough!
And bless the hands that guide it;
God gives the seed—
The bread we need,
Man's labour must provide it.

In every land the toiling hand
Is blest as it deserves;
Not so the race who, in disgrace,
From honest labour swerve.
From fustian bowers bring rarest flowers,
To deck the swarthy brow
Of those whose toil improves the soil,
The Soldiers of the Plough.
Kind heaven speed the plough!
And bless the hands that guide it;
God gives the seed—
The bread we need,
Man's labour must provide it.

Blest be his lot, in hall or cot,
Who lives as nature wills;
Who pours his corn from Ceres' horn,
And quaffs his native rills!
No breeze that sweeps from stormy deeps,
Can touch his golden brow;
Their foes are few, their lives are true,
The Soldiers of the Plough.
Kind heaven speed the plough!
And bless the hands that guide it;
God gives the seed—
The bread we need,
Man's labour must provide it.

In which month do the ladies talk least?

February—the shortest.

When is a boat like a heap of snow?
When it is a drift.

Why is a bluish like a little girl? Because it becomes a woman.

Why is the first chicken like a forecast? Because it is just before the main hatch.

Why is a married man like a candle? Because he goes out at night when he ought not to.

What are you looking after, my daughter?—An old gentleman at a Christmas party. "Looking after a son-in-law for you, father," was the witty reply.

Jenkins is a man who takes things humorously. When his best friend was blown into the air by a bursting boiler, Jenkins cried after him, "There you go, my esteemed friend."

An editor says that he has seen the contrivance lawyers use when they warm up with the subject. He says it was a glass vessel, and held about a pint.

Osby (politely): "Beg pardon, sir, please don't smoke the cab, sir; ladies do complain of the smoke." "Better let me smoke for you on the outside."

Josh Billings says: "Tew bring up a child in the way he should go—travel that way yourself." Solomon couldn't improve on that.

EXPLANATION.—Well, wife, I don't see for my part how they never let on to them 'ere wives without tearing 'em all to bits. 'Laws me, they don't send the paper, they just send the writin'.

ABOUT RIGHT.—A lad from the "Green Isle," whose occupation is that of blocking stores, fireplaces, and stove-pipes, bearing upon his arm a pot of blocking, with brushes and other implements of his trade, addressed a denizen of the city, who was standing at the door:—

"Has your honor any stove to polish this morning? I'm the boy for that business."

The person addressed not being of a courteous manner, gruffly answered:—

"Go about your business."

Pat moved a few steps off, to be out of the reach of a kick, and replied:—

"Your honor would be the worse for a little polishing yourself, I'm thinking."

There is a tradition that the whole of Gaspé was presented by a king of France to a gentleman who bore the title "Count of Gaspé," but afterwards bartered away his vast domain, as large as the kingdom of Sweden, for a fowling-piece. If the Count's ghost sees the preparations to tap 200,000 acres there for oil now, won't he Gasp, eh?

Why are plain people like a knife that won't cut? Because they are blunt.

Exemption from care is not happiness; on the contrary, a certain degree of care is essential to promote enjoyment.

"As diamond polishes diamond," says a German writer, "so man is formed by man."

Truly.—And we would add, as diamond cuts diamond, so man is formed by man.

Simplicity of the learned Parson. The great scholar had a horror of east wind, and Tom Sheridan once kept him prisoner in the house for a fortnight by firing the weather-cock in that direction.

A man was boasting before a companion of his very strong right. "I can discern from here a mouse on the top of that very high tower."—"I don't see it," answered his comrade; but he hit it running."

REASON FOR GOING TO CHURCH.—It was observed of an old citizen that he was the most regular man in London in his attendance at church, and no man in the kingdom was so punctual in his prayers. "He has a very good reason for it," replied John Wilkes, "for, as he never gave a shilling, did a kindness, or conferred a favor on any man, living, no one would pray for him."

A PATIENT LAD.—"Ben," said a father to his delinquent son one day, "I can hear you now—but as soon as I get time, I mean to give you a flogging."—"Don't hurry yourself, pa," replied the patient lad, "I can wait."

DIVISION OF LABOR.—A certain preacher was holding forth to a somewhat wearied congregation, when he lifted up his eyes to the gallery and beheld a youngster pointing the people below with chestnuts. Dominie was about to administer 'em castles' sharp and stinging, when the youth, mistaking him, bowed out at the top of his voice: "You mind your preaching, daddy, and I'll keep them awake."

Why are watermen foolish? Because they expect to catch soft water when it rains.

KEEPING HIMSELF.—Good morning,

Mr. Jenkins; where have you kept yourself this long time? "Kept myself," said Jenkins, "I don't keep myself, I live on credit."

No doubt a lady may be expected to make a great noise in the world when her dress is covered with bugs.

NOT AMISS.—A humorist, the other day, remarked upon the dispute pending between the testators and the jolly fall' bottlers of this borough, termed it the "War of the Red and White Noes."

As a proof of the fact that girls are useful articles, and that the world could not very well get along without them, a late writer states it as a fact, that if all the girls were driven out of the world in one generation, the boys would all go out after them.

WHAT IS 'CANVASSING'?—An Irish witness before the Clare Election Committee, having said he had been "all day canvassing," was directed to define canvassing, which he did thus: "To try and induce the voters to vote for Corney O'Brien, and if they would not, to give them drink till they could not vote at all."

"Doctor, I want you to prescribe for me." The doctor feels her pulse. "There is nothing the matter, madam; you only need rest."

"Now, doctor, just look at my tongue, just look at it; now, say, what does that mean?" "I think that needs rest too."

Exit madam in a state of great excitement.

MARRIED.—Miss Jane Lemon and Mr. Ebenezer Sweet.

"How happily extremes do meet
In Jane and Ebenezer;
She's now no longer oft, but Secret,
And he's a Lemon squeezer."

An American Editor published a long leader on hogs. A rival paper in the same village upbraids him for obtruding his family matters upon the public eye.

A minister, travelling through the West some years ago, asked an old lady on whom he called what she thought of the doctrine of total depravity. "Oh," she replied, "I think it is a good doctrine if the people would only set up to it."

FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES.—A man who had lived much in society, said that his acquaintances would fill a cathedral, but the pulpit would hold his friends.

RATHER SHARP.—A gallant gentleman of the old school in one of the street cars, the other day gave up his seat to a lady who sat almost always in the case under like circumstances, failed to make the proper acknowledgment. Standing a while after the car had moved on, he stooped over as if to listen and said to her:—

"What do you say, madam?"

"Nothing, sir," was the reply of the startled "Oh," said he, "excuse me; I thought you said thank 'ee."

"Ah," said sceptical collegian to an old Quaker, "I suppose you are one of those fanatics who believe the Scripture?" Said the old man, "I believe 'em. Do you believe 'em?" "No, I can have no proof of its truth." "Then," inquired the old man, "does that believe in Franco?" "Yes; for although I have not seen it, I have seen others who have seen it." "No," did they ever see their own brains?" "No." "Did they ever see a man who did see them?" "No." "Does that believe that has any?" This last question put an end to the scripture discussion.

SONG.—Oh, marry the man you love, girls, if you can get him at all; if he is as rich as Ceres, or as poor as Job in his fall. Pray do not marry for self, girls, 'twill be your soul into thrall, but marry the man you love, girls, if his purse is ever so small. Oh, never marry a fop, girls, whether he is little or tall, he'll make a fool of himself and knows nothing well but to draw. But marry a sober man, girls, there are few left on this ball; and you'll never rue the day, girls, you ever married at all.

"I have lived to know," says Dr. Adam Clarke, "that the greatest secret of human happiness is this: Never allow your energies to stagnate."

Daniel Bryan's Oath.

[Daniel Bryan, as appears by the context, had been a lawyer of eminence, but had fallen, through intoxication, to beggary and a dying condition. Bryan had married, in better days, the sister of Moses Felton.]

At length all hopes were given up. Week after week the fallen man would be drunk on the floor, and not a day of real sobriety marked his course. I doubt if such another case was ever known. He was too low for conviviality, for those with whom he would have associated would not drink with him.

All alone in his office and chamber he still continued to drink, and even his very life seemed the offspring of his jug.

In early spring Moses Felton had a call to go to Ohio. Before he set out he visited his sister. He offered to take her with him, but she would not go.

"But why stay here?" urged the brother. "You are falling away, and disease is upon you. Why should you live with such a brute?"

"Hush, Moses, speak not so," answered the wife, keeping back her tears. "I will not leave him now, but he will soon leave me. He cannot live much longer."

All alone in his office and chamber he still continued to drink, and even his very life seemed the offspring of his jug.

"Ah, Moses, how are you?" he gasped, for he could not speak.

The visitor looked at him a few moments in silence, and then, as his features assumed a cold, stern expression, he said in a strong, emphatic tone:—

"Daniel Bryan, I have been your best friend but one. My sister is an angel, but matched with a demon. I have loved you, Daniel; as I never loved man before. You were noble, generous, and kind; but I hate you now, for you are a devil incarnate. Look at that woman. She is my sister; she might live with me now in comfort, only she will not do it while you are alive; yet when you die she will come to me. Then do you see that you will give her boys to my keeping?" Now, Daniel, I do sincerely pity the first intelligent that I have seen when I shall have reached my own home may be that you are dead."

"Stop, Moses, I can reform."

"You cannot. It is beyond your power. You have had inducements enough to have reformed, but you have not."

yet you are lower than ever before. Go and die, sir, as soon as you can, for the moment that sees you thus shall not find me among the mourners."

Bryan's eyes flashed, and he drew proudly up. "Go," he said, with a tone of the old powerful nature, "go to Ohio, and I'll send you news. Go, sir, and watch the post. I will yet make you take back your words."

"Never, Daniel Bryan, never."

"You shall; I swear it."

With these words Daniel Bryan buried his jug into the fire-place, and while yet a thousand fragments were flying over the floor, he strode from the house.

Mary sank fainting on the floor; Moses bore her to a bed, and then having called in a neighbor, he hurried away for the stage.

For a month Daniel moved over the brink of the grave, but did not die.

"One girl who saw that the abrupt removal of stimulants from a system that for long years had almost subsisted on nothing else, was nearly sure to prove fatal."

"You are surely taking a gill and not take more."

"Aye," gasped the poor man, "take a gill and break my oath. Moses Felton shall never hear that brandy and rum killed me. If the want of it can kill me, then let me die. But I won't die; I'll live till Moses Felton shall sit at his table."

He did live, an iron will conquered the messenger death sent, Daniel Bryan lived. For one month he could not even walk alone; but he had help; Mary helped him.

A year passed away, and Moses Felton returned to Vermont. He entered the courthouse at Burlington, and Daniel Bryan was on the floor pleading for a young man indicted for forgery. Felton was startled with surprise. Never before had such torrents of eloquence poured from lips. The case was given to the jury and the youth was acquitted. The successful counsel turned from the court room and met Moses Felton.

They shook hands but did not speak. When they reached a spot where none other could hear them Bryan stopped.

"Moses," he said, "do you remember the words you spoke to me a year ago?"

"I do, Daniel."

"Will you now take them back, unsay them forever?"

"Yes, with all my heart."

"Then I am in part repaid."

"And what was the remainder of your payment?" asked Moses.

"I must die an honest, unperjured man. The oath that has bound me thus far was made for life."

That evening Mary Bryan was among the happiest of the happy. No allusion was made to the scenes of a year before, but Moses could read in both the countenance of his sister and her husband the deep gratitude they did not speak.

And Daniel Bryan yet lives, one of the most honored men in Vermont. Five times he has sat in the State Legislature, three times in the Senate, and once in the National Congress.

Evils of Gossip.

I have known a country society which withered away all to nothing under the dry rot of gossip only. Friendships, once as firm as granite dissolve to jelly, and then run away to water, only because of this; love, that promised a future as enduring as the stars, is but a bubble, and in a moment of time it is a morning mist that turned to a day of long tears, only because of this; a father and a son set foot to foot with the fiery breath of an anger that would never cool again because of this; and a husband and his young wife, each striving at the beginning had been the golden bondage of a God-blessed love, now marred by the side of the grave where all their joys lay buried, and only because of this. I have seen false transformed to mean doubt, hope given place to grim despair, and charity take on itself the features of black malice, only because of the spell of words of scandal, and the magic workings of gossip. Great crimes were wrought, and deeper tragedies of human life spring from its larger passions, but woe and most melancholy are the uncalculated tragedies that issue from gossip and detraction; most mournful the shipwreck often made of noble natures and lovely lives by a traitor wind and dead salt waters of slander. So easy to say, yet so hard to disprove, throwing on the innocent all the burden and the strain of demonstrating their innocence, and punishing them as guilty if unable to pluck out the stings they never see. Gossip and slander are the deadliest and cruellest weapons man has for his brother's hurt.—All the Year Round.

Taking the Hint.

It is truly surprising to see how slow some farmers are to take the hint. It seems as if the old adage held true at this day,—

"When it rains porridge their dish is always bottomed."

For the winter of 1864-5, the weather was not only dry, but it was a severe frost, and the crops were ruined. The farmers were slow to take the hint, and they were slow to take the hint.

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skinning the surface, but progressive farmer sold his farm at a high figure. They all supposed it was a wonderfully productive farm; and the purchaser was one of those old fogies who were born in the old country, and who were not at all conversant with the style of surface farming, and who were not at all conversant with the style of surface farming.

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