JUNE 23, 1911

The Commoner.

castles or palaces, although some generally useful as that which relates the progress of the human born within such confines have done mind and the development of the the world some temporary good from human race. Victor Hugo says that time to time; but the straw-thatched the human mind half divine as it is cottages of Europe and the log cabins is capable of creating from time to of America have given to mankind time superhuman efforts, and these the intellectual wealth that made an efforts are more numerous than is generally or commonly supposed, for aside from the works of the sculptor, the painter and the poet, they embrace the entire field of art. Much has been written about this marvelous man Shakespeare, such accredited historical and dramatic critics as Rowe, Malone, Halliwell, Philips, Thebold, DeQuincey, Richard Grant White, George Brandts, Victor Hugo and others have written elaborately of his genius, but after all we know but little of his inward and outward history, beyond the fact age. that he was an ordinary man of humble origin, and that the average mind not only, but the cultivated. the cultured, and the matured mind ing every variety of human thought are amazed that one of such apparent and action. He knew the heart and obscurity should so get the start of the majestic world as to bear the intellectual palm alone, and be justly styled not only the grandsire of the English-speaking stage, but of being the intellectual spendthrift of this to believe that it must have taken world. He was not so fortunate as to be born surrounded by all the structed the drama. We pass on to pride, pomp, circumstance and glory of aristocracy; there was no royal us like a morning rose newly washed blood in his veins, and 'tis best for with dew. When one attempts to write humanity that such was the case. The men of thought, the men of genius, the men who have given to den treasures contained in the the world the wit, the wisdom, the Hymalayas, the Alps, the Andes, or philosophy, the story, the song and the Rocky mountains. To add anythe art that have enriched the happiness of mankind were not born in refined gold, painting a lily, adding another hue unto the rainbow, seek-

indelible impress upon the footprints and sands of time. Europe furnished us with such examples as Oliver Goldsmith, Robert Burns, Richard Cobden and Leo Tolstoy. America enriched us with such characters as Ben Franklin, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, Abraham Lincoln, Henry Ward Beecher, General Grant, Horace Greeley, William McKinley, Henry George and William J. Bryan, whose worldly actions and methods of pure thought have materially contributed to the civilization of our William Shakespeare was the author of thirty-eight dramas, together with several poems embracbrain of man and of woman; the thoughts, theories, hopes, loves, hatreds, virtues and vices of the human race. We read one of his plays, and our imagination leads us a superhuman effort to have conthe next one and it opens up upon of Shakespeare is like attempting to describe the high peaks and the hidthing thereto would be like gilting

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- In blackness of heart?---that we 1.00 1.25 war to the knife? 1.25 God pity us all in our pitiful strife! God pity us all as we jostle each other; God pardon us all for the triumph we feel When a fellow goes down; poor, heart-broken brother, Pierced to the heart-words are keener than steel, And mightier far for woe or for weal. Were it not well, in this brief little journey, On over the isthmus down into the tide, We give him a fish instead of a serpent, Ere folding the hands to be and abide, Forever and aye, in dust at his side? Look at the roses saluting each other; Look at the herds all at peace on the plain; Man, and man only, makes war on his brother, And dotes in his heart on his peril and pain, Shamed by the brutes that go down on the plain. Is it worth while that we battle to humble Some poor fellow-traveler down into the dust? God pity us all! Time too soon will us tumble All men together, like leaves in a gust; All of us humbled down into the dust.

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