# EVERY YEAR 

## By Albert Pike

Life is a count of losses Every year; For the weak are heavier crosses, Every year; Lost Springs with sobs replying Unto weary Autumns' sighing, While those we love are dying, Every year.

It is growing, darker, colder, Every year:
As the heart and soul grow older, Every year;
I care not now for dancing,
Or for eyes with passion glancing, Love is less and less entrancing, Every year.
The days have less of gladness ever Every year;
The nights more weight of sadness, Every year;
The winds and longer charm us, The threats of death alarm us, Every year.
There come ne cares and sorrows, Dark days Every year;
Dark days and darker
The ghosts of dead loves haunt us,
The ghosts of changed friends taunt
And disappointments daunt us, Every year.
Of the loves and sorrows blendea, Ev.ry year;
Of the charms of friendships ended, Every year; Of the ties that still, might bind me,
Until time to Death resigned Until i ime to Death resigned me, My infirmities remind me, Every year.
Ah! how sad to look before us, Every year:
While the cloud grows darker o'er us, Every year;

When we see the blossoms faded, That to bloom we might have aided, And immortal garlands braided, Every year.

To the Past go more dead faces, Every year;
As the loved leave vacant places, Every year;
Everywhere the sad eyes greet us, In the evening's dusk they meet us, And to come to them entreat us, Every year;
"You are growing old" they tell us, Every year;
"You are more aloae" they tell us, Every year;
You can win no new affection, You have only recollection, 'Deeper sorrow and dejection, "Every year."

Too true!-Life's shores are shifting, Every year;
And we are seaward drifting, Every year;
Old places changing, fret us,
The living more forget us, There are fewer to regret us, Every year.

But the truer life draws nigher, Every year;
And its morning star climbs higher, Every year;
Earth's hold on us grows slighter, And the heavy burdens lighter, And the Dawn immortal brighter, Every year.

Our life is less worth living, Every year;
And briefer our thanksgiving,
Every year;
And Love, grown faint and fretful, With lips but half regretful,

## Averts its eyes regretful,

Every year.
(In a former issue, The Commoner printed a poem entitled "Every Year," credited to William Cowan in Chamber's Journal. An Arkansas friend of The Commoner writes that this poem, which was only published in part, was written by General Albert Pike, and enclosed the above poem. The Commoner is glad to be able to give this splendid poem in full, and to give credit Liter ral ", author, General Albert Pike, on the authority of "Southern Vol 9, pa, edted Dr. Alderman, president of the University of Virginia, Vol. 9, page 4040. General Pike spent 37 years of his life in Arkansas. His old home, known as the "Pike Mansion," still stands in Little Rock.-Ed.)
my toll of sorrow, devastation, and
death. Fors, but old Mammy, the family death. For I am pitiless-devoid of Gil feeling; I fear neither man nor God, am amenable to no law, and 1 am in myself the law and the last
I AM WAR!
[The foregoing won the $\$ 300$ prize offered by Life.]
ANOTHER MISREPRESENTATION CORRECTED
The White House, Washington April 24, 1914.-My Dear Sir: I am April siad to reply to your letter of Aprit sixteenth and to say that Senator Gore has at all times been in hearty accord with the policies and with all the work of the present ad ministration. I am surprised that any impression of a contrary sort should have gained currency. No one who has looked into the facts could have given it any credit. I entertain the warmest admiration for Senator Gore and have the greatest confidence in him. Sincerely yours,

WOODROW WILSON
Mr. Eugene M. Kerr, Muskoge
Times-Democrat, Muskogee, Okla.
She Wasn't Impressed
The young man of the house really was making good in a way that delighted his parents and brought him much flattery from friends and neigh-
onvant, remained unimpressed. ticular brilliant piece of work, he said to Mammy:
"I'm not a baby any longer, and I think you ought to call me Mr. Charles hereafter,"
The old darky snorted her indignation.

Who-me?"' she asked. "I ain't never gwine call you Mister. You ain't no Mister any mor'n I's a Miss. You couldn't wiggle yo' fingers so pert acuttin out folkses insides of 1 hadn't a-kep' 'em limber wid smackin' an you couldn't hear de patients forever washin ef wars clean! You ain't nothin' but a measly little boy to yo' ole Mammy!"-Pittsburgh Cbronicle-Telegraph
" $P$ 'taters is good this mornin" madam," said the old farmer mak ing his usual weekly call.

Oh, are they?" retorted the customer. "That reminds me. How is hat them you sold me last week is o much smaller at the bottom of "We basket than at the top?"
"Waal," replied the old man, 'p'taters is growin' so fast now that y the time I ge: a basketful dug the last ones is about twice the size of the first."-From Business.

