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THE BROKEN TOY.

A broken toy! what memories cling Around this half-forgotten thing: What buby-laughter seems to rise, Line old, delightful melodies; What Shouts of wordless, tuneful joy, Algorith of this poor broken toy.

(b. (iny feet that would not rest! the cear head pillowed on our breast, The form we lost, 'mid tears and pain!
An, child! the empty cot is ours,
But thine the sunshine and the flowers!

What could we give thee, should'st thou come
To smile again upon thy home?
Such little pleasures as we know
In this, our twilight life below;
Some fragments of earth's paltry joys,
A handful of its broken toys.

How calm thy lot forever blest; How exquisite thy happy rest! How changeless, joyous and serene, Compared with what thy lot has been With us—whose fleeting, clouded joys Are at their best but broken toys.

Early Marriages in Lancashire.

Early marriages are nowhere so common as in the prosperous manufacturing districts of Lancashire, England. Boys and girls not out of their teens, but earning big wages, and having their feel-ings of independence prematurely developed by the absence of home life, get united in holy wedlock at a time when, in the higher ranks of society, they have not left school ner begun to think of a calling. Saturday is a favorite day for getting married, because it is a short one and the ceremony can be got through with a minimum of loss—a thing certain to be considered by a thrifty operative.

The town is paraded for a few hours in cheap tawdry finery in glaring colors, which can never serve any useful pur-pose again; perhaps one of the watering places is visited if it be fine, and on Monday morning the newly married couple may be found at their looms, in defiance of all poetry of romance, and the wear and tear of life begin with them once more in real earnest.

Marriage makes no alteration in the position of the wife, so far as mill-work is concerned; she puts in her ten hours a day now as she did before. Indeed, she has incomparably the worst of the bargain, for when the day's work is over it is her privilege to light the fire at home, get the supper ready, and do the necessary household work, while it is the prerogative of the husband to use his leisure hours according to his own sweet will. When the time comes for the baby to be born, the mother-expectant withdraws from the mill for a few weeks, and when she is well enough to resume her place at the loom, the baby is placed in the care of some old crone, who is past work herself and ekes out sufficient to live on by taking charge of five or six of these luckless babies for the consideration of a shilling or two a week.

Don't Muzzle the Ox.

Lunch Room in connection, where to his parson, "it's mighty wrong to take anything what don't 'long ter yer, ain't

"Yes, ole man, it's a sin, an' de Lawd will punish de man mighty pene-

"When any ob our members takes anything what doan 'long ter 'em, yer turns 'em outen de church, doan yer?"

turns 'em outen de church, doan yer?"

"Yes, in discountenance ob de debil
an' by de grace of the Lawd."

"Wall, Brudder Jasper, I'se got ter
make a 'fession. Las' night I gin under
ter de temptation, an' picked up de
fines' young lamb I eber seed."

"Yer'll hab to suffer de consequences."

"It was sich a fine lamb dat I'se fotch
yerse'f ha'f ob it, and I'se got it right
heah in dis bag."

"Wall, dat puts a new light on de
premises, 'case de Bible says dat yer
mussen muzzle de ox what treads out
de grain. Sorta keepa lookout for dis

de grain. Sorta keepa lookout for dis lamb's podner, case I'se a gwineter hab comp'ny at my house naixt week."— Ark. Traveler.

Swindling in Quinine.

A short time ago it was discovered by the doctors attached to the great hospitals in Paris that the use of the quinine supplied to those establishments not only did not prove satisfactory, but that it proved positively injurious to their patients. The quinine was therefore analyzed with the result that it was found to be leaved adultorated. analyzed with the result that it was found to be largely adulterated. An inquiry was instituted, and a wholesale druggist named Lacombe, by whom the medicine was supplied by contract, has been tried for the offense of adulterating the quinine, and has at length been condemned by the Eighth Chamber to a year's imprisonment, fifty francs fine, and the insertion of the judgment at his own expense in a number of the leading newspapers.

How He Made a Home Run.

Dave Pulsifer was telling some of his Chicago Board of Trade friends recently about his early recollections of base ball. Said he, "I was playing once upon the Boston commons when my mother came along very angry at my tardiness toward home duties."

"There cause the average, he is destitute of a moral nature, and hasn't the slightest conception of the enormity of the acts by which he took the lives of several little children.

"'Dave,' said she, 'I want you to come home with me at once?" " 'Wait, mother,' said I, 'until I make

clean three-base hits. I know that I made a 'home run' off of her batting, which, to my notion, was the strongest ever witnessed in one short inning.

Mother had one drawback, she couldn't run bases."

-A number of the prominent medical journals and other papers have of late entered protests against the custom of standing bareheaded in the open air during funeral services. This time of the custom of the custom of standing bareheaded in the open air during funeral services. ored but senseless fashion has often caused the funeral of one prominent person to be followed by deaths of many others—a careless and wholly unnecessary waste of life which an enlighened age should continue no longer.

-A "Commission," presumably of to go on, and he did so until his direct charges of corruption displeased them, by inferior to good cow's milk."

THE MUSIC OF THE RAIN.

Falling, falling on the house-tops,
With music quaint and rare,
Like the sound of human heart-throbs,
On the silent midnight air,
Or the tears of angels failing
When they weep with those who weep,
Or the lullaby of mothers
When they rock their babes to sleep.

Like the drowsy wine of popples
With its weird, enchanting powers,
Coming to the weary listener
Like the dew to drooping flowers;
Like calm sleep to those who suffer,
Or like tears to those who mourn;
Like remembered words from loved ones
From our aching bosoms torn.

Strangely sweet, bewitching music,
All enthralled my senses lie,
As I watch the mystic Future
With the shadowy Past go by,
While a calm and holy quiet
Steals upon my heart and brain,
Then I fall asleep, still listening
To the murmur of the rain.

So, mayhap, sometime hereafter ?
I shall lay me down to rest, Over weary, and shall listen
For the music I loved best;
When, its gentle cadence falling
Through the midnight silence deep, Softly soothes my troubled spirit While it lulls me into sleep.

When at last my soul has fallen
Into sweetest, glad repose,
That on earth sunshine nor shadow
No awaking ever knows— Like the voice of waiting angels,
Or the vesper bells in toll,
May the softly falling rain-drops
Chant a requiem for my soul.

—Abe Kinne.

Beecher and the Stenographers.

A great deal is said about newspaper inaccuracy, and most of the complaints are unfounded or are only based on trifling errors. It is an affectation in many public men, and a silly one, to discredit wholesale the reports of their utterances. On the other hand, the pretensions to infallibility by shorthand writers are not borne out by the facts. No stenographer alive can take down verbatim the utterance of a rapid speaker. Take Beecher for a conspicuous test. It is an object to him to have the fullest possible reports made of his sermons, for the purpose of issuing the best of them in pamphlets and books. He has during his long pulpit career tried numerous experts, and there is a notion that Ellingwood, who has for years been his accredited reporter, is master of the job. So far is it from being so that two other rapid men are employed each to make a separate report, and from the work of the three a copy is written out. But the fallibility of this system is that all are likely to fail simultaneously in the extremely rapid passages. Like impulsive speakers generally, Eeecher speaks so slowly at times that his words can all be taken down in long hand. But for the next ten minutes he will rattle away at a rate that defies stenography. Last Sunday he was forty-two minutes delivering his morning sermon. One of the most competent shorthand reporters in the city took every word of it that he could get, and the total was about 6,000 amount of this letter. And this was not absolutely accurate, many sentences having to be completed by guess work.

Probably the sermon entire would have made nearly two thousand words more. Beecher is so sensible a man that he recognizes the difficulties of reporting, and never grumbles at anything which addressed to the sermons and most of them get me to come to their most of them get me to come to their recognizes the difficulties of reporting, and never grumbles at anything which adequately reproduces his sermons and

"As a rule," he says, "the reporters make good a hiatus in their notes so well that no violence is done to the sentiment. Occasionally some blunder has made me ridiculous, but much oftener, I imagine, my language is improved by the misrepresentation. I do not assert positively on this point, for the reason I am unable when I see a sermon of mine in print to tell how nearly accurate it is in print, to tell how nearly accurate it is. Of course, I can detect any departure from important meanings, but can't recall my words to any great extent.-N.

Jesse Pomeroy, the Boy Murderer.

A correspondent, while in Concord, Ma .., recently, visited the prison in watch Jesse Pomeroy is confined. The boy has reached man's stature now. Under the condition of his sentence he is kept in solitary confinement. He has no intercourse whatever with the other prisoners, and the visitor was not permitted to speak to him. Solitary confinement in his case does not mean the utterly cheerless condition that one could imagine. Pomerov it is said has could imagine. Pomeroy, it is said, has developed into a young man of more than ordinary intellect, thoughtfulness, and reasoning powers. He is allowed to have all the books he wants, and with these companions his mental life is not wholly devaid of comfort. Since he has wholly devoid of comfort. Since he has been in prison he has acquired enough knowledge of several languages to read right useful that way."—Atlanta Constithem well. His cell is spacious and lution. well lighted and ventilated. Young Pomeroy remains to-day what his crimes showed him to be-an abnormal character. While more intelligent and intellectual than the average, he

Pure Sympathy.

"Roast duck, sir."
"Ah! was the duck shot on the wing?"

"I guess so." "Trying to get away from this cussed place, wasn't he?"

"I presume likely enough, sir." "Good bird; sagacious fowl; rara avi.

I admire his pluck and pity his misfortune. You may bring me that duck.
I'll take the whole of him. I'll help him
along on the road."

-The Railroad Commissioners of California were in lazy session, pretending to investigate abuses in the freight traffic affecting the farmers of the State, when a venerable rustic asked permission to address them. They told him

sioners with them.

CONSTANCY.

Part, oh part, But not from Love, ah! no, For, though it blooms in sorrow, "Tis Heaven's flower below.

Part, oh part, But not from Hope, ah! no, It is the star of sorrow, God's sweetest gift below.

Part, oh! part, But not from Faith, ah! no, It is the crown of sorrow Our lives must wear below.

Part, oh! part, Yet not from Pain, ah! no, Who knows not Love in sorrow Knows naught of Love below.

Eestatic Deathbed Visions.

"Have you ever observed the visions and eestatic delights that are often spoken of by religious writers?" was asked Dr. L. L. Seaman, one of New York's leading physicians.

"Certainly. They are quite common, and not at all confined to religious persons. Experienced physicians testify that most persons die in a state of trance. Although they are apparently conscious, they pass away in a state of dreaming. Often they seem to be listening to musical sounds. Sometimes they seem to be beckoned to by angels."

"And do you regard such exhibitions

as purely physical?" "Just as much so as a dream. They are controlled by the ordinary thoughts and feelings, the every-day life and education and imagination of the subject in precisely the same way as a dream is so controlled. Generally a dream is a reproduction of a waking thought. The curious jumble of subjects in a dream is the result of the absence of volition. There is a suspension of the functions of the median tract of the brain. The same thing occurs in the mesmeric trance. 'The suspension may be temporary, and then the person may not only return to consciousness, but remember some of the curious things seen in the vision. Something of the same nature occurs in taking opium. In the earlier stages of opium eating the subject appears to have two mental operations going on at once. One is fantastic and odd, the other normal and regular. In such a case one is able to keep up a running comment on the

Shingling Women's Hair.

visions passing before his eyes."

"Oh, no, it ain't the dudes that have their bang's shingled," said a Philadel-phia barber. "Some dudes wear bangs, I know, but they don't have 'em shin-gled, and all the shingled customers I have are ladies, who ain't able to shingle their own heads."

"Wot's shingling? Well, it's just taking the hair from the middle of the head and letting it fall over in front and then cutting it so that it looks like a shingled roof; that is, in layers, each one a little shorter than the one in front words, or two and a half times the of it, so that when the job's finished the lady's bang is nice and fluffy, and looks as if it was bubbling up from the top of

> most of them get me to come to their houses, but I have some customers who don't seem to mind coming to the shop and going through the operation seated on a chair with a towel around their shoulders, though there may be three or four gentlemen getting shaved at the same time.—Philadelphia Record."

The Danger of Being a Natural Orator.

I met an old friend the other day and says he: "I just wish you could see my boy. I'm fixing him up for college and he is just the smartest boy in all this country. He is a natural orator. He has got gifts, he has. He speaks now like Henry Clay. He took the medal in declamation. I wish you could see him on the stars. He is just explended he is.

on the stage. He is just splendid, he is."
I looked at him mournfully, and says
I: "It's sad, very sad. I never knew a
natural orator to be any account. I was a natural orator and it ruined me. I've

Girls.

A stroll on Washington Heights revealed to a correspondent a fashionable girl fashionably playing lawn tenni-She had more than the average height of her sex, and was symmetrically perfect. Her figure was encased in what he sup-poses was a jersey bodice. At all events, the fabric was elastic, woven and seamless. In his opinion there was no corset less. In his opinion there was no corset under it, else she could not possibly have been so supple, nor would every movement of the muscles below her shoulder blades have been visible. He does not like to think that she was consciously on exhibition, and that her poses and action were studiously careless, for she made too fine a picture to lack for she made too fine a picture to lack honesty. Women may like to know that her skirt was short, striped and scant; that her stockings were black; that her shoes were alligator skin, cut low and that, as to her hat, their fancy must construct it out of the bare assertion that it was big, and so eccentric in shape that no architect could give an idea of it on paper without at least a hundred cross-section views.

A Pretty Plaintiff Deprives a Jury of Common Sense,

A young woman in England was slightly hurt in a railroad accident, and ciety of Hygiene, has studied the condensed milk question, and reports that when it is diluted with twice or four said, "and I didn't mean to be turned ground that the company was a radical a ridiculously heavy verdict. The Judge granted a new trial on the ground that the plaintiff and her sister, times its weight of water it may in some cases be useful as a food for infants, but is always to be considered "incontesta-" from his pocket and pelied the Commis cases be useful as a feed for infants, but is always to be considered "incontesta-" from his pocket and pelied the Commis case that the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, who appeared as a witness in her based on the plantial and her sister, which is plantial and her sister, which is a plantial and her sister, which is plantial common sense.

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