

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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 VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.
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JANUARY SUNDAY CIRCULATION.
44,541
 State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss. Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average Sunday circulation for the month of January, 1915, was 44,541.
 DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.
 Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 20 day of February, 1915.
 ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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Thought for the Day
 Selected by Anna B. Andrews
 This above all—to thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man.—Shakespeare.

United Omaha means a more progressive Omaha.

A suspicion is growing in Omaha that the weather man has sold the sun.

With the price of raw material shrinking, it is up to the bakera to pull the shrinkage out of the loaf.

If the record of "first battles" is not to be broken, it's about all over with the senator's resolution.

All nations of the first class now pitch their financial voices in the billion key. Even the American congress joins in the billion chorus.

The most cheering news of the waning winter is condensed into three words—"no extra session." The country needs a rest and will welcome the relief.

Publicity scores again. The "Belgian actress" who worked both sides of war sympathizers in Omaha, was unable to extract the coin in Kansas City. A diagram of her game got there first.

The mistake of dividing the activities of the agricultural college is just now very apparent to a number of people who were ardently in favor of aiding a democratic statesman on his way to Washington a few years ago.

Camera men are reported to be taking pictures of European battlefields in the interest of the Carnegie peace movement. Any person who springs a war picture when peace comes stands a first class chance of being run in for disturbing the peace.

Hats off to Hon. Morna A. Wood of Crook county, Wyoming. Although the sole representative of womankind in the legislature she effectively squelched the quick and easy divorce scheme and vindicated the supremacy of morals over dollars.

The former British ambassador to the United States, Viscount Bryce, expresses the hope that the present strife "will rid the world of the worst evil of the human race, war. If this does not cure us, nothing will." Among the forces to be employed to that desirable end is less glorification of war in history and fewer public monuments glorifying warriors.

Progress in the Churches.

The religious forward movement inaugurated by various denominations a few years ago apparently has made its influence felt in the growth of church membership in the United States during the last year. Statistics compiled by Rev. Dr. H. K. Carroll, an expert in that line, show an increase in church membership of 783,078 for 1914, a highly satisfactory growth under abnormal conditions in the last five months of the year. The increase averages 2 per cent for all bodies, great and small.

Dr. Carroll's statistics were issued by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. They place the total church membership at the close of year at \$8,708,149. The proportion of gains credited to the larger bodies give the lead to the Churches of Christ, followed by the Methodists, Roman Catholics and Baptists, in the order named.

The report gives supremacy in membership to the thirty churches constituting the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ, with a total of 37,500,000 members, nearly one-half the total church membership in the United States. Roman Catholics rank second with a total of 13,794,637, a number considerably less than the latter body claims. Nine bodies have membership over the million mark, including the Protestant Episcopal church, which crossed the line during the year.

A notable feature of the report is the gain of 3,213 in number of ministers, more than double the gain of 1913, while the increase in churches, 1,441, is less than half that of the previous year. This curious reversal of former reports indicates a practical adjustment of the number of churches to the available supply of ministers.

Higher Education and the Farm.

It is perhaps true that higher education has made boys and girls dissatisfied with the life on a farm as it has heretofore been. The sordid drudgery of the never-ending round of toil that was the lot of the old-fashioned farmer, who got little for his efforts beyond a bare existence, was not sufficiently alluring to hold the ambitious youth of the country to the soil. They looked out into the world and saw opportunity for better and more enjoyable ways of living and they sought it. Higher education is not to be blamed for this; the condition was due to the lack of the advantages that have come with the wider spread of the broader knowledge of the world. The university, if it has had any effect on the movement, has helped to turn the tide in the other direction, and is sending back to the farm young people who are better qualified to meet the conditions of life, and to secure a better living with less effort, because they have had the advantages and inspiration that come from education.

The function of education is dual: first it opens up the mind, to the end that an understanding may be had of the elements that control life and shape the destinies of the race. Along with this essential qualification is developed and strengthened the even more necessary faculty of thinking, of reasoning, and of planning, to the end that efforts will be made the more effective and results the more certain. The first service that education brings to its possessor is an ability to sustain and enjoy life under circumstances that become intolerable to the uneducated. A man or woman with a mind broadened and trained by the discipline and teaching of a modern school is possessed of the treasures of all time, and has an inherent grasp of things that are outside the narrow circle in which the untrained mind must pursue its daily round. With this capacity for enjoyment, the second service of education, that of ability to plan, direct, and execute, becomes of inestimable value.

Nebraska, in common with all the states of the union, finds that a very large and continually increasing percentage of its university students are turning to agricultural and allied pursuits. The value of the university, the academy and the high school to the farmer is so great that special argument on this line need hardly be made. Any man should be proud of a son or daughter who has the ambition to seek for wider knowledge in the higher schools, and he ought to be grateful that he has the means to assist in gratifying that ambition.

Sara Bernhardt, "Mutilated."

A sense of shock will accompany the reading of the news that Sara Bernhardt is to suffer the amputation of a leg. This wonderful woman belongs to the world, rather than to France. All through a long life she has been the exponent of an art that is above art, because of its imperishable ideals and its evanescent achievements. She has reached in that art an eminence attained by no other in her time. Other actors have been eminent, others have attained to such height of fame as would make an ordinary mortal dizzy, but none has reached to where Sara Bernhardt stands alone. Possessed of a remarkable talent, she made the best use of it, giving freely to all the world of her ability. While she held to the use of the French tongue, she was cosmopolitan in her views, catholic in her tastes and universal in her expression. And now that she must undergo, as she expresses it, "mutilation," it is characteristic of her that the catastrophe overtakes her near the firing line in the great war, where she has been aiding in the work of caring for the wounded. If sympathy will help Sara Bernhardt at this time, she will get great assistance from America.

A Pageant for Ak-Sar-Ben.

Several times in recent years the question of substituting some different form of amusement instead of the carnival at Ak-Sar-Ben time has been brought to the attention of the Board of Governors, but no definite action has ever been had on the point. The main reason for perpetuating the carnival has been that it is a revenue-producing. The Ak-Sar-Ben board members, separately and as a whole, admit that the carnival is not the most desirable form of amusement to be provided, and yet are at a loss for something that will serve the purpose and produce the revenue, for the money that is taken in at the gate is of vital importance to the management of Ak-Sar-Ben.

It was suggested last year that Ak-Sar-Ben look into the feasibility of presenting an historic pageant that would serve as the principal daylight amusement for the festival season. The Board of Governors made a special trip to St. Louis for the purpose of witnessing the pageant and masque given there. They admitted being much impressed by what they saw, but again returned to the question of funds. It is not likely that the Board of Governors will feel at this time justified in assuming the expense that would attach to the presentation of so important an undertaking as a properly devised and correctly organized historic pageant and masque. The Bee, however, suggests that the matter be given serious consideration. Nebraska history contains many interesting episodes, which would produce interesting and imposing spectacles, which possibly might be adapted for a daylight parade, if the pageant was not feasible at this time.

Success of the Automobile Show.

No evidence of depression or hard times in the great Automobile show that closed at the Omaha Auditorium last night. Dealers report more than a million dollars' worth of cars sold during the week, which makes a record that any enterprise might be proud of. The purchasers of these cars will use them in all the various ways to which the machine is suited, and will doubtless get back many times over in service the cost. But the main point is that the people of Omaha and its immediate neighborhood are in such financial fix that they can indulge in these wholesale expenditures. This is a most significant and satisfactory sign of the times. It not only evidences, but it proves, prosperity, and in this, if in no other, way the tenth annual Omaha Automobile show was a success.

The zeal of the Water boarders for permission to enter side lines of business is prompted, no doubt, by a desire for a repetition of the performance whereby Omaha was soaked for a few millions.

Views, Reviews and Interviews

By VICTOR ROSEWATER.

THE thirty-year anniversary of the Gridiron club and the induction of The Bee's Washington correspondent at the same time into the office of president of the club gave the entertainment last week more than the usual interest for me, as well as for the others who had the good fortune to attend. So many people ask, "What is the Gridiron club?" and "Why are its dinners accorded so much publicity?" that authoritative information may be worth having. In the "Book of the Play," distributed as a souvenir of this occasion, there is a prelude contributed by Frank G. Carpenter, giving a few words about ourselves, from which we may learn that the organization is the outgrowth of a dinner held at Welcker's hotel back in the winter of 1885, at which thirty-four sat down to the table, the most distinguished guest being Vice President Hendricks, most of the others being correspondents representing the leading daily newspapers of the country at Washington. At first the club was limited to an active membership of forty, since raised to fifty, with a few associate members no longer in the harness and the capital and a few limited members who contribute special talent to the entertainments. The unique feature of the club is that it furnishes all the "stunts" in the nature of parody or satire on current events mirroring or imitating the public men who are themselves often present in person—but all, as the foreword assures us, in kindly fashion and with a view to promoting "good fellowship."

We hold with our fish, bird and beast
 A guest with each course without fear or remorse,
 And the scorch does not sear in the least.

So much for the origin and methods of Gridiron toasting. Its novelty is always most impressive the first time witnessed, and subsequent performances naturally lead to comparisons of good, better, best. I have had the privilege of being a Gridiron guest probably eight or ten times and I well remember the initial experience in December of 1902. It was at the Arlington hotel; since then they have all been at the Willard. Congressman McClellan had just been elected mayor of New York, and was there in company with "Boss" Charles F. Murphy of Tammany hall. They had scarcely been seated when a pseudo-policeman entered with a red lantern, which he hung immediately over their heads to make the red light district. When their heads were lit, a few words by McClellan were later called on to say a few words by referring to the coming transfer of his activities from Washington to New York and expressed appreciation of the kind and cordial treatment he had received while in congress from the newspaper men.

"We never mentioned you," called out a voice.
 "That's what I'm thanking you for," was the quick retort.

Another guest permitted to speak was Congressman Cushman of Washington state who, by the way, was a former Nebraskan and in popular parlance a "singed cat." Cushman related his great obligation to the newspapers in his public career.

"Why, the very first person to greet me when I came to Washington was a newspaper man," said he.
 "He accosted me in the railway station and asked, 'Who are you?'"
 "I'm Cushman," said I.
 "Cushman—who's he?"
 "Why, I'm the new congressman from the State of Washington."
 "Whom did you succeed?"
 "I'm the successor to the Hon. James Hamilton Lewis."

It was at that same dinner that the famous Langley airship was put on exhibition with the explanation that it would carry its passenger direct to the White House, and then the statesmen supposed to be incubating presidential bees were called out one by one to take the seat in the car that was to convey them to the destination of their ambitions. Speaker Cannon, Senator Hanna, Senator Gorman and several others were the political aviators, but, of course, the machine wouldn't budge for one reason or another that rendered the passenger ineligible and he was ousted to make way for the next.

Recollection of the first Gridiron attendance reminds me, also, that The Bee has furnished the president of the club twice, the first time William E. Annin and now Edgar C. Snyder. Annin had just died a short time before the 1902 dinner and was one of the departed members for whom a memorial eulogy was pronounced. The room was darkened and his portrait thrown upon a lantern screen, from which it gradually dissolved as the tribute to his life and character was delivered in beautifully poetic language.

Here are some of the lines of the Inauguration of President Snyder, being a crisis-cross catechism of him by different members of the crew:

"Are you a newspaper man?"
 "I represent The Omaha Bee."
 "(Sharply) Stunt!"
 "Can you read?"
 "I have read The Omaha Bee for thirty years."
 "That's a test of literacy."
 "Well, it's a clean paper."
 "It ought to be; it's soaked with Rosewater."
 "Are you a family man with ancient history?"
 "I remember when my friend, W. J. Bryan, first ran for president."
 "If President Wilson neglects his duty, what excuse can he offer?"
 "Well, under present circumstances, he can plead the baby act."
 Washington, February 13, 1915.

The Sleepers

Bishop Sanford Orsted, apropos of a proxy clergyman, said at a tea in Denver:

"They tell a story of a witty lady who was asked: 'Did you go to Dr. Drey's church last Sunday?'"
 "Yes."
 "Well, what was the text?"
 "'He giveth His beloved sleep...'"
 "And how many were present?"
 "The witty lady laughed.
 "'All the beloved, I should say,' she replied."
 Washington Star.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha

The Swedish Lutheran conference for the Kansas-Nebraska district held its final session. An effort was made to have Nebraska withdraw from the conference and unite with that of Iowa, but the other districts refused to accede.

People and Events

Owing to the dearth of lenses "made in Germany," the cost of eyeglasses is on the rise. Why not? High glasses are peculiarly suited to the times.

Two women and a score of men have been arrested in Chicago charged with padding the registration lists. The girls are not slow in catching on to the shady points in the game.

Mrs. Edna Van Winkle managed the senatorial campaign of Francis J. Heney in California last fall. She lost and won at the same time, and changed her name to Mrs. Francis J. Heney.

A St. Paul man 75 years of age danced blindfold around eighteen eggs laid on the floor a foot apart and didn't break one. It is said he acquired his agility in the Minnesota legislature.

The last of the dozen or more teacher-moist of New York City, whose dismissal provoked a storm, has been restored to her place in the schools. The surrender of the Board of Education was more discreet than graceful.

A New York lace importer went into court in Cleveland to collect from Cleveland purchasers a bill for lace dollices with angel figures minus wings. "Who ever heard of angels without wings?" queried the jury as it quizzed the bill.

George W. Perkins of New York is taking an active part in the movement to break up speculation in food products and bring prices down to a live-and-let-live basis. This is in keeping with his expressed desire to make this country a good place for children to grow up in.

David E. Shanahan of Chicago is the champion deadlock picker in Illinois. A combination of republicans and democrats made him speaker of the assembly after a contest of six weeks' duration. Shanahan is just over 60. He started in life as an ironman, switched to republican politics and has been in the business ever since. In addition to these qualifications, the speaker wears a head as smooth as Judge Baker's.

TABLOIDS OF SCIENCE.

The smallest apartment houses are those occupied by bees. In a cubic foot of honeycomb there are about 9,000 cells.

Life-size dolls are now made for student nurses to handle so that they will know how to manipulate patients when they are called upon to do so.

After extensive experiments two English chemists have perfected sulphur dyes with which it is possible to color wool, silk, hemp and other fibers satisfactorily and economically.

An ant can carry a grain of corn ten times the weight of its own body, while a horse and a man can carry a burden only about equal to their own weight.

Crushed brick from old walls with bits of mortar adhering has been found satisfactorily to replace crushed stone and gravel in the manufacture of concrete.

An argument in favor of the generous feeding of cattle is the fact that a cow which gets a good ration gives about three times more milk than her hungry sister.

It is believed that an excellent substitute for silk has been produced in Panama by crossing the blooms of certain wild fiber plants with a species of cospidium. The result is a staple of texture finer than cocoon silk, but with a tensile strength about five times greater.

QUAINT BITS OF LIFE.

The clerk of the recorder's court in Mill Valley, Cal., recently filed the following case: "George Washington versus Christopher Columbus—landlord's action to recover rent."

H. M. Hancock of Waco, Tex., 81 years old, has a third set of teeth removed because they were causing him pain. The dentist found that they were being replaced by three solid, well formed new teeth.

The smallest cow in the world are found in the Samoan Islands. The average weight does not exceed 100 pounds, while the bulls weigh about 200 pounds. They are about the size of a Merino sheep.

Following a cow which has developed a habit of disappearing every morning and coming home in the evening without her usual supply of milk, James Wilson of Greensburg, Pa., discovered that the cow was raising a motherless fawn.

Rev. J. E. Jones of Spur, Tex., was in Houston and was in a hurry to get married in order to catch a train. He located Rev. S. J. T. Williams in a bank and Rev. M. Jones and Miss Edna Carraway were married in a safety deposit vault to insure privacy.

Margaret Elizabeth, the 15-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bruch of East Mauch Chunk, Pa., has fourteen living ancestors, eight great-grandparents, four grandparents, and her parents. She is the only living grandchild on either side of the family.

SIGNPOSTS OF PROGRESS.

Montreal has the largest flour mill in the British empire; it turns out 5,000 barrels a day.

Self-propelled steam machinery clearing land of stumps after lumbering operations has been invented.

The days of making brick by hand are no more. Electricity is now extensively used in brick-making plants.

The world's most northern railroad, in Lapland, is to be electrified, power being obtained from nearby waterfalls.

United States naval officers have developed a colored glass that renders invisible the fumes from smokeless powder.

The introduction of electricity for power in the South African gold mines has reduced the amount of tuberculosis among the miners.

WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES.

Miss Elizabeth Moore of St. Louis, who is a member of the Children's Bureau department of the government, has returned to Saginaw, Mich., to continue her investigations in regard to the women of the lumber camps and health of the children.

Mrs. Havelock Ellis was the first person to come out with the public statement that the happiness of women depends upon their economic independence. She is not so much in favor of suffrage as in work for all women.

Miss Clara Weller of Des Moines, Ia., was recently awarded the silver button of the National Rifle association for making a score on the rifle range of 84 out of a possible 100. She is a member of the first girls' rifle team organized west of the Mississippi river.

To Mary Preble of Woolwich, Me., has been accorded the distinction of being the champion amateur shot of the town. She has been unusually successful in bringing down small game, and at fifty or 100 paces she usually hits a bull's-eye four or five times, and frequently makes a perfect score.

Training and efficiency, and not sex, should be the qualifications of those wishing to fill position in life, says Dean Emilie W. McVea of Cincinnati university. She says that girls should marry at 25, and the only objection to a college education is that it raises the marriage age to 25 or 30.

Varick House is a six-story building in New York, which has been opened for the benefit of the factory girls, where they may obtain room and board for prices ranging from \$4 to \$15 a week. There is a sewing room with machines with electrical connection, where the girls may make their own dresses. The rooms are all single, with the exception of one on each floor, and each contains an easy chair, chiffonier, bed, desk table and side chair.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt has given much time and money to the question of the selling of drugs and the treatment of those who become victims. She has now declared that the manner in which the City of New York takes care of the drug "fiends" is a hideous farce. After ten days the victims are sent out of the hospitals "cured," and she says they leave shattered in nerve and unable to fight against the drug. Katherine Bement Davis, commissioner of charities in New York, says that between 35 and 50 per cent of all the criminals are drug fiends.

AROUND THE CITIES.

The jitney bus fever now extends from Victoria, B. C., to Baltimore, Md.

Housewives of Chicago who talk for publication threaten to quit bakers' bread and knead the dough themselves.

A Brooklyn, N. Y., girl the other day was awarded \$10,000 damages for the loss of three fingers in a factory accident.

South Bend, Ind., has so much war order business on hand that the townspeople have no time to waste in rooting for peace.

In Salt Lake City the jitney business has reached the point where the jitney owners are hiring lawyers to protect their interests.

Boston boasts that its schools give more instruction in the "three R's" than any other city in the United States. More power to Boston.

In the juvenile court at Columbus, O., a youth unresponsive to gentle treatment was roughly dusted on the spot by order of the court. Emphatics on the spot.

As a measure of home defense Emporia, Kan., excludes all transient merchants, bankrupt stock hawkers and foreign peddlers from doing business in the city.

Oakland, Cal., offers cash bonuses to city employes who make acceptable suggestions for the betterment of services in their department. Pure velvet is a good stimulus for thinking machines.

Sioux City's school budget for the year foots up \$600,000 and an additional \$200,000 in bonds for new buildings is to be submitted to the voters. The election is to be held March 9 and a free textbook project will be voted on at the same time.

A gentle reminder from the business interests of Des Moines that a modern union station would increase the joy of living at the capital brought from the railroad managers the response that there will be nothing doing in that line until the revenues of the Iowa lines are materially increased.

MUFFLED KNOCKS.

If you are going to tell a fellow he is a bad egg, break it gently.

When a policeman uses his club he generally raps for order.

Even the furrier is willing to admit that beauty is only skin deep.

A girl can't be blamed for forgetting a fellow when he forgets himself.

It sometimes takes a certain amount of strength to admit our own weakness.

You never can tell. Many a man is tall physically, but mighty short financially.

If you have one foot in the grave, don't worry. You'll get there with both feet.

The average man feels that he is a match for the fellow who has money to burn.

A bride will sometimes sweep up the aisle, but that is generally the sexton's work.

When a woman says she won't, she won't; also very often when she says she will.

Many a man who is most lavish with his talk has to take it back, slightly damaged.

The fellow who always wants to be treated says it's an ill wind that blows nobody off.

There isn't much hope for the people who would rather tell their troubles than be popular.

Don't call names; but, on the other hand, you can flatter any woman by calling her a flirt.

In spite of the fact that money talks, it doesn't seem particularly garrulous with some of us.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT

Detroit Free Press: A western minister declares that each individual makes his own hell. And now and then you run across a man who's an expert at the trade.

Pittsburg Dispatch: A Philadelphia woman resents Billy Sunday's remarks about the idle rich, she insisting that there are no such people. Come to think of it, the rich are kept pretty busy finding something to do.

Philadelphia Ledger: With a membership gain of 75,000, the churches of America may look upon 1914 with encouragement and 1915 with hope. But in this country of majorities the majority is still outside the churches and the big work is still to be done.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: There were, when the period of latest census compilation closed, 186 ways of getting to heaven. It is possible that some may get there without traveling the main traveled roads at all; men and women who really believe that He is "the way the truth and the life," and who see in His sacrifice not only a something to believe in but something to emulate. Because all of the orthodox churches preach Him crucified, their message cannot fail either to the poor or the understanding who are willing to accept the sacrifices in faith of its own sufficient efficacy, or to the stronger in mind who realize the obligation which their faith puts upon them. The work is good. Go to church.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

Willie-Faw, does a botanist know as much about flowers as a florist?
 Paw—Yes, my son. But he doesn't know as much about the prices people will pay for them.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Nodd—"The only criticism I have to pass on women is that they are never ready to take the initiative."
 Todd—I wish you would accompany me to my home some evening after I have been out with the boys.—Life.

"Rome was one of the wickedest cities on earth."
 "I ditto," replied Uncle Bill Bottletop. "I've heard so. But people that could have taken Roman punch as serious ticks must be a damned good deal more unspicillitated, seems to me.—Washington Star.

"That man seems to be making a great deal of money."
 "Yet in the nature of his business, he is always up against it."
 "How is that?"
 "He is a wall decorator."—Baltimore American.

"This man Sunday's certainly working wonders," remarked Mr. Feok.
 "In what way in particular?" asked his better half.
 "He's reformed the Winbigs. Their daughter got away with a young fellow and he'd publicly announced that they would quit bridge whist."
 "What?"
 "Sure, the wedding announcements said 'no cards.'"—Philadelphia Ledger.

"She hesitated a long while, I wonder how she finally came to decide to take the matrimonial plunge."
 "Must be the young feller's pater who off the dock, so as to speak."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

BEAUTY SEEN IS NEVER LOST.

John Greenleaf Whittier. Touched by a light that hath no name, A glory never sung, Aloft on rocky mountain wall Are God's great pictures hung. How changed the summits vast and old! No longer granite-browed; They melt in rosy mist—the rock is softer than the cloud; The valley holds its breath; no leaf Of all its elms is stirred; The silence of eternity Seems falling on the world.

The pause before the breaking seas Of mystery is this: You miracle-play of night and day Strike dumb its witnesses. What unseen at last wees and they publicly announced that they would quit bridge whist."
 "What?"
 "Sure, the wedding announcements said 'no cards.'"—Philadelphia Ledger.

These purple veils of air
 What presence from the heavenly heights
 To those of earth stoops down?
 Not vainly Hellas dreamed of gods
 On Ida's snowy crown!
 Slow fades the vision of the sky,
 The golden water pales,
 And over all the valley lands
 A gray-winged vapor sails.
 I go the common way of all:
 The sunset fire will burn.
 The flowers will blow, the river flow
 When I no more return.
 No whisper from the mountain pine
 Now lapsing stream shall tell
 The stranger, treading where I tread,
 Of him who loved them best.
 But beauty seen is never lost,
 God's colors all are fast;
 The glory of this sunset heaven
 Into my soul has passed.
 A scene of Hellas unattained
 To mortal