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POETRY OF THE TIMES.

Stens of Spring. By the tickling of our nose, By the itching of our ears, By the need of stiffer horns,

An Easter Sermon. 'Tis glad that Easter Sunday's here, Said Mrs. Henry Gray, 'My bonnet new and other gear

Under Her Chin. Tying her bonnet under her chin She had her raven ringlets in, But not alone in the alk she wore

And many a time that little child He's heard from since, you said, And bonnets she's had for her raven hair,

Buttoning the sealakin up to her chin, She gildeth out and she gildeth in, And the eyes of woman with envy are green;

The Mavor and the Goat. [An incident of the term of Andy J. Bryant, ex-mayor of San Francisco.] His honor sat in busy state, When soft the snuffbox door Opened a timid inch, and there

"Please, sir, I come about my goat; They've got him in the pound," "And you, you, you, you, you!"

"Please, sir, he's such a little goat, He slipped our railings through, He never butts the dogs or girls;

A wild whoop in the corridor Gave every ear a twinge, But in a moment all was still;

A SEWING WOMAN.

What was I to do? Never was a woman placed in such a pitiable condition. I had been brought to Russia by a New England sewing machine company to run their machines at an agency of theirs in St. Petersburg,

It would go very little toward the payment of the debt the agent owed me. I hurried home. Perhaps there was a letter with money in it.

I hastened back and took up my position near the shop. I scanned every woman passing by. It was bitterly cold and raw, and the wind chilled me.

"No, no," I said, "I want no money. I cannot beg. I am not yet so poor as to ask alms. But do you remember me?"

"How long would it take to become proficient in working this?" she inquired as she laid down before the machine and tried the pedals.

"No, madam. Oh, would you buy it? It is mine by rights. The money for it might help me to leave St. Petersburg."

"How long did you say it would take me to become proficient?" "Two weeks—perhaps less."

"I expressed my gratitude with almost effusive fervor. 'I have no material here, but anything will do,' I said, as I opened my trunk and took out an apron."

"At this rate of progress, madam, you would become quite a good workman in ten days," I said, approvingly.

"I am very much overpaid," I said. "Where are you from? English or American?" "American, from New Hampshire."

"I did not, would not, allow myself to be disheartened. I sat down and wrote a letter to my mother, at Amherst, the other to a sewing

By and by a fashionable dressmaker, who made dresses for the court ladies, sent for me and gave me work.

"It is for me, Sister Mary," said Eliza. She took the bit of paper, held it to the stove, appeared to read something, and then opened the stove door and burned it. I did not question her.

"I was speechless with terror. 'Only a woman,' she continued, 'whose own life—or the life of any one else who stood in her way—she would care no more of a taking than would the cook who wrings a chicken's neck.'"

"I begged her to come to the United States with me. She said: 'No, my place is here. I should be useless there.' Then she complained of lassitude, and presently went to sleep.

"I returned to our room. As I stood at the landing the cheerful clatter of the machine was heard. Eliza was banding over her work singing some plaintive air 'Is it alright?'

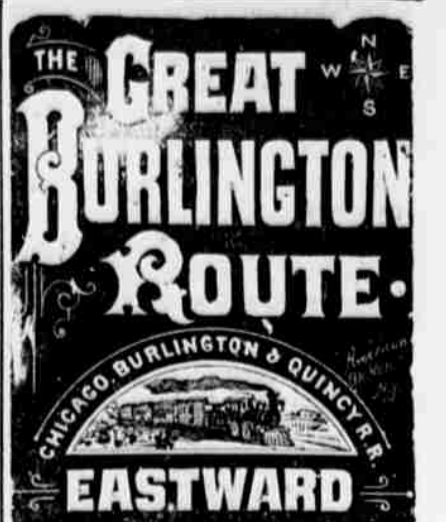
"I have permission to leave!" "Thank God! See my work. I think I could do now without you."

"Not love you—my sister! I loved my husband—he was shot. I loved my only child; in the agony of my grief—because his father was killed—

My trip home was without a single incident. My dear mother comforted me. Still, there was some vague feeling of dread. My mind wandered, all I could do, toward my room companion.

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