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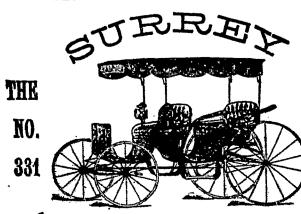
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GEMS IN VERSE.

Where Man Should Die. How little recks it where men die, when once

In which the dim and glazing eye has looked on earth its last-Whether beneath the sculptured urn the coffined form shall rest. Or in its nakedness return back to its mother's

the moment's past

Death is a common friend or foe, as different men may hold And at its summons each must go-the timid and the bold;

But when the spirit, free and warm, deserts it. What matters where the lifeless form dissolves

again to dust? Twere sweet indeed to close our eyes with those we cherish near, And wafted upward by their sighs soar to some calmer sphere;

But whether on the scaffold high or in the battle's van, The fittest place where man can die is where he dies for man!

Inconstant

Inconstant! O my God! Inconstant! When a single thought of thee Sends all my shivering blood Back on my heart in thrills of ecstacy!

Inconstant! When to feel That thou hast loved me, wilt love to the last_ Were joy enough to steal

All fear from life—the future and the past! Inconstant! When to sleep And to dream that thou art near me is to

So much of heaven, I weep Because the earth and morning must return. Inconstant! Ah, too true!

Turned from the rightful shelter of thy breast: My tired heart flutters through The changeful world—a bird without a nest

Inconstant to the crowd Through which I pass, as to the skies above The fickle summer cloud, But not to thee; oh, not to thee, dear love.

I may be false to all On earth besides, and every tender tie Which seems to hold in thrall This weary life of mine may be a lie.

But true as God's own truth My steadfast heart turns backward ever-To that sweet time of youth Whose golden tide beats such a barren shore

Inconstant! Not my own The hand which builds this wall between our lives;

On its cold shadow, grown To perfect shape, the flower of love survives. God knows that I would give

All other joys, the sweetest and the best, For one short hour to live Close to thy heart, its comfort and its rest. But life is not all dark.

The dove shall find its ark Of peaceful refuge and of patient hope.

The sunlight goldens many a hidden slope.

Oh, darling! hold it closer for the dream. God will forgive the sin, If sin it is; our lives are swept so dry, So cold, so passion clean.

Go, if thou wilt, beloved, far from me-What way soever pleasure beckons thee. But make this heart thy refuge still, alway, The key is thine-none other's. Stray or stay. When thou art wearted in that chamber rest-When thou art grieved, and deemest quiet

Thank him death comes at last-and so-

When thou art glad or sad. My tenderness Shall shield thy moods of silence. None shall Thy presence there. Alasi what breaks my

Three times I tried to say, "Bring in thy Of one alone whose presence is most sweet, And I that friend with gracious word will

Forgive, love, that I faltered. "Yea," I cry, "Bring e'en that friend thou lovest—though I -Kate Vannah.

Whom first we love, you know, we seldom wed. Time rules us all; and life, indeed, is not The thing we planned it out ere hope was dead; And then we women cannot choose our lot. Much must be borne which it is hard to bear;

Much given away, which it were sweet to God help us all! who need, indeed, his care.

My little boy begins to babble now Upon my knee his earliest infant prayer. He has his father's eager eyes, I know, And, they say, too, his mother's sunny hair.

But when he sleeps and smiles upon my knee, And I can feel his light breath come and go, I think of one (Heaven help and pity me!) Who loved me, and whom I loved, long ago.

Who might have been-ah, what I dare not thinki We are all changed. God judges for us best And trust in Heaven humbly for the rest.

But blame us women not, if some appear Too cold at times; and some too gay and light.

me griefs gnaw deep. Some woes are hard Who knows the Past? and who can judge us

h, were we judged by what we might have And not by what we are, too apt to fall! My little child--he sleeps and smiles between These thoughts and me. In Heaven we shall -Owen Meredith.

Across the Bay. gaze across the rippling, shining bay, And watch the distant boats with eager eye, wonder why the sails so far away

Are whiter than the sails I see near by. far out, the water glistens in the sun With dazzling beauty, as the daylight dies; The water near the shore is dull and dark, So full of shadows and of sad, drowned eyes.

This is life's story from the first to last. 'Tis far off things for which we ever pray. The beauty that lies 'round us we see not. But gaze with loving eyes across the bay. -Florence A. Jones.

The Hero.

Nay, never falter; no great deed is done By falterers who ask for certainty. No good is certain but the steadfast mind. The undivided will to seek the good: "Tis that compels the elements and wrings A human music from the indifferent alr. The greatest gift the hero leaves his race Is to have been a hero. Say we fail! We feed the high tradition of the world. And leave our spirit in our children's breasts.

"Our Own,"

We have careful thoughts for the stranger And smiles for the coming guest; But oft for our own The bitter tone. Though we love "our own" the best!

Ahl lips with the curve impatient, Ahl brow with that look of scorn. Twere a cruel fate Were the night too late To undo the work of the morn!

-Margaret E. Sangster,

"Crowd Poison."

This is a new name given by physicians to the temporary illness caused by remaining for some hours in a closely crowded room. Everybody has observed the nausea, headache and generally disgruntled condition that follows an evening at the theater, or at a large social reception, or at any crowded gathering of human beings. Another fact familiar in human experience is that it is not outdoor exposure that gives one severe and dangerous colds, but "exposure to crowded rooms," as it has been called. General Butler probably took the cold which was the immediate cause of his death in the crowded, ill ventilated courtroom at Washington.

Medical chemists who have analyzed the air which causes "crowd poison" report that it is loaded down with carbonic acid gas, and this is the source of the illness. If present in sufficient quantity it would speedily cause death by suffocation. But there is just enough oxygen in crowded meeting rooms for humanity to live on miserably. The whole tone of the system is weakened and benumbed, however; the blood cannot circulate or react when cold air strikes the skin; hence the person "takes cold." Often it is as much as one's life is worth to go to a meeting of any kind in cold weather. Why will not architects and people who build houses provide for fresh air?

British Party Organization. Mr. James Bryce contributes to The North American Review an elaborate comparison between political party organization in Great Britain and the United States. It is in the United States among all the nations, he says, that party organization has reached its great to such an expedient. A Russian est strength and completeness. Other nations who want to have well drilled and marshaled political parties, organized on a regular system, must look to the United States and learn of us.

The American politician will feel to pity with all his soul the poor Briton who has no primaries or even a nominating convention. The only elections | Besides defending their works well, there which elicit any great interest are they made many intrepid sallies upon the parliamentary ones, and these do not come oftener than on an average of four years. The Briton has no state election, for there are no states, and the only legislature is the parliament of the nation. How much fun the poor Briton | upon it. misses, to be sure! Suffrage has been so limited in England that only since 1870 have school boards been elected, and the governing boards called county councils only since 1888, in which year the right dently on the point of flight. of suffrage was still further distributed among British freemen. Members of municipal councils, county councils, school boards and parliament are all the officers voted for at popular election in Great Britain.

The parliamentary constituencies are voters elect the member of parliament. Moreover, the member does not even have to live in the district which he rep- Meantime the Turkish infantry sallied resents in parliament, which, from the 'forth, and began an advance. American point of view, is certainly unfortunate. Often the candidate is sent to a district from the party headquarters in London; again he simply announces that he will be a candidate, hires a room for his headquarters and gets a committee to work for him-no nominating convention, no shrewd dickering and bartering, no fuss and feathers, no nothing.

Only recently have the local political organizations in a district had much influence in the choosing of a parliamentary candidate, Moreover, the American And yet, I know, the Shepherd loves his politician will consider most lamentable of all Mr. Bryce's statement that even when there is a complete political revolution, as when Salisbury went out and Gladstone went in, there are not more than "thirty or forty places which change hands with the ministry of the day." This is quite too bad, really.

An Angel Here. A ragged urchin played along the street, And slipped and fell upon the loy way. A fair browed girl tripped by with nimble

But sudden stopped beside the boy, who lay Half crying with his pain. In sweetest tone And eyes brimful of tender human love. She said, "And did you hurt you much!" A

Died on his lips. An angel from above Could not have grander seemed than she to He opened wide his great, brown, homeless

Thus to be sure one of the seraphim

Had not come down to earth in sweet dis-She went her way, forgetting that she smiled. Glad to have said a word of hope and cheer. Not so the vision to the humble child-

That voice and face would live through many And then to beys who gather round the lad. And heart that 'neath his ragged garb was

"I'd fall again to have her speak to me!"

Oh, precious human voice, with power untoldi Oh, precious human love to mortals given! A word or smile are richer gifts than gold-Better be angels here than wait for heaven.

-Sarah K. Bolton

One of the interesting incidents connected with the courtship of Prince Ferdinand of Roumania and Princess Marie of Edinburgh was the receiving once a week by the princess of one of Ferdinand's old love letters to Mlle. Helene Vacaresco, to whom he was formerly engaged. Helene was his first leve, but for reasons of state he was not permitted by Russia and Germany to marry here. Therefore the spiteful Vacaresco got even with him in truly feminine fashion by sending his love letters, one by one, long drawn out, to his new betrothed. This must have had a soothing tendency upon Princess Marie's feelings, especially as she is said to have the true Russian temper. Now that she is married it will be her turn to get even



O, florcely fought he in the wars His courage oft was noted. And three times be for gallantry Was honored and promoted

Where bullets flew as thick as fleas, And almost as annoying. Well to the front he bore the brunt When death with men was toying.

The shrick of shells no terror brought,

Though comrades fast were falling, He stood alone in trenches strewn With carnage most appalling. He smiled on death with a scornful smile, And fear and he were strangers.

Found food for mirth in dangers. l'et now his noble courage fails -His heart is near to stopping-It shakes his nerves when his wife observes "John come with me a-shopping."
—Detroit Tribuna.

When blood flowed free he laughed in glee,

Valor and Appetite.

It is the duty of an officer in command of troops on the battlefield to be equal to any demand upon his courage, but to avoid merely foolhardy displays of valor On occasions, however, if he believes that nothing else than an unnecessary risking of his own life will nerve his men to do their duty, a brave officer will undoubtedly resort officer's remarkable exploit of this nature has lately been put on record in the Memoirs of Gen. Kurapatkin.

At the siege of Plevna by the Russians and Roumanians, in the Russo-Turkish war of 1878, the attacking army was composed largely of raw recruits and young men, whereas the besieged Turks were, for the most party, veterans and excellent soldiers. their assailants.

The Turks had discovered point in the Russian lines, where a trench was defended by a battalion of and massed their forces for an assault load.

The battalion was under the comand disabling many. Terrorstricken, the troops were wavering, and evi-At this moment the young cartain

looked at his watch. "Why, it's dinner-time! ' said he "Ivau, gather some of those sticks and put on the camp kettle here! With this he jumped out upon the ground outside the trench, in full

small. In some cases less than 8,000 artillery fire which was going on lowed it up with others. With the His terrified servant obeyed, and be-

> "Fire!" the captain commanded his settled. men in the trench. "Aim lower; that's it Ivan, what are you letting that kettle boil over for?

and he ate coolly. The Turks charged up within a hundred paces. The cap- and the teamster proceeded. tain, his mouth half full of food, gave | orders to his men which concentrated | was that the whole thing was done betheir deadly fire upon exactly the fore it occurred to the rest of the party right spot. But he never left his exposed post outside the trenches, and It is charitable to adopt the theory did not cease to eat deliberately.

ing mercilessly into the trench; but handled the sacks to remember their the recruits kept their places well, and epulsed the assault.

When the Turks had withdrawn completely, and the fire had ceased, the Russian soldiers found that Ivan had cooked a large kettleful of soup, of which they all partook, the captain eating his share with the men. "Goodness!" he said; "those fellows

thought they were going to interfere | flounderers out of the ruts of misunderwith our dinner, but they didn't." Another kind of bravery, and one which perhaps makes a severer test of the moral qualities, was that which the troops of Gen Gourko displayed in

their famous winter march over the Balkan Mountains in the same war. In a temperature which daily fell to snow and sharp rocks, these embattled shoes were worn to pieces. Some lucky few among the soldiers were able to find sheepskins and calfskins, pieces of which they wrapped about their feet. The rest dragged ou with

bare feet, leaving a trail of blood on the frozen earth. There were no rests. It was necessary to press on. At night, the men lay down in the snow, under the shelter of a rock if they could find one. In the morning, those who had not frozen to death over night rose and pressed on again, not dreaming of complaint.

In this state they met the enemy, and had a good deal of hard fighting to do. Who can doubt that they welcomed death in battle, even though their bodies were left unburied, in heaps, on the mountain's side?

The Captain's Fall.

Darius Delafield, one of the early settlers of Indiana, was elected Captain of a militia company by his neighbors, a position of considerable importance in those early times, at least in the eyes of the officer himself. Capt. Delafield, anxious to acquit himself creditably, had gone to the extravagance of buying a uniform with an abundance of brass buttons.

On the morning of the first public muster, the Captain donned his new uniform, and before breakfast went out into his yard to practice the steps and military evolutions. He marched up and down, and countermarched; he stepped forward and back and gave commands to an imaginary company of soldiers.

"He stepped round so peart-like and switched his coat tails," said his wife. who was watching him from the window in the intervals of getting I reakfast, "that I was reminded o' the way Deacon Muzzey's old turkey gobbler used to strut round his yard when we lived in Maine."

Now a few feet from the house there was a potato hole, an apology for a cellar, with an opening four feet wide. Mechanics' Tools. The Captain had been talking about making a cover for this, a sort of trapdoor of boards, and his wife had urged the matter, saying "it was dangerous, Manufacturers' Supplies, somebody might fall into the hole in the dark;" but one of Capt. Delafield's weaknesses was procrastination, and the trap-door had never been made.

"Right about, face! Forward march!" commanded the captain to his imaginary men, as he stepped back with dignified mien and flourished his sword. He had forgotten the potato hole, but there it yawned just behind

Another backward step and the doughty captain disappeared from view There was a crash, a rumble of rolling barrels, a clatter and clash of earthen pans and iron kettles, and a cloud of dust floated up from the potato hole! Mrs. Delafield heard the tumult and

ushed to the door. "For pity's sake, Darius!" he cried,

'what has happened now?" "Nothin', nothin'," replied the captian dubiously, as he clambered out of the hole and stood alternately rubbing his bruised shins and brushing the dust off his clothes. And then detecting an amused smile on his wife's face he added crossly, "Go 'long into the house, Maria. What do you know

about war?" "I know enough not to walk into a rap o' my own setting," she retorted amiably, and retieated to the house. Before the captain went to the muster the potato hole was covered with boards, and the mext day he made a

substantial trap-door.

Lincoln Lent a Hand. An old farmer of Tazewell County, Il., relates an incident of Abraham Lincoln's young manhood which notably illustrates the generosity of his spirit. One morning in early spring the farmer and a friend were jogging along the road near Pekin, the county seat, when they noticed in the distance a farm wagon halted in the road, and beside it two men on horseback. When they came up to the wagon they found it stuck fast in the mud, which New and Second Hand Sewing Machines late rains had left in a very gummy very cheap. Parts for all Machines.

The wagon was loaded with heavy sacks of corn, and the teamster was doing his utmost to urge his panting E. SCHIRCK. horses forward, but to no avail. They could not bulge the load.

The two horsemen proved to be Mr. Lincoln and his law partner. Mr. Swett They were on their way from raw recruits. They opened a heavy Pekin to Springfield, and had paused fire of shot and shell upon this trench, to watch the efforts to extricate the When the farmer drove up he

recognized Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Swett, mand of a young captain. The missiles and after exchanging greetings were dropping into the trench, killing with them, turned to his companions and said: "I'll bet a dollar Lincoln gets down and helps that fellow out."

with his good clothes on, I don't think Abe'll do it." The words were hardly uttered before Mr. Lincoln leaped to the ground, and throwing off his coat seized one of range of the Turkish infantry fire, the sacks as if it had been a bag of and completely exposed also to the bran, tossed it to one side, and folteamster's assistance he had soon lightened the load sufficiently to enable the gan to cook the captain's dinner. horses, aided by one of his mighty shoulders, to draw the wagon out of the chuckhole into which it had

Nor did the great-hearted man stop there. He was never known to leave a job unfinished. He began replacing The man handed the captain food, the sacks and stopped only when they were back in their places in the wagon

A remarkable feature of the incident that they could render any assistance. that they were too intent upon the All this time the bombs were drop- masterly manner in which Lincoln

Putting on his coat and jumping into the saddle, Lincoln with a quiet smile ioined the farmers in a good old-factioned chat about weather, crops and the political questions of the day. Then with Mr. Swett he ambled off down the road to his lators in the law court, where perhaps he pulled some other standing.

Dusty Places. Gen. Grant's quick perception and prompt action in moments of exceeding danger are graphically described by Theodore R. Davis in the Cosmofive degrees above zero, over ice and politan. One afternoon during the siege of Vicksburg he came sauntering peasants had marched until their on foot toward the naval battery on Logan's front.

The place was known as the "shell basket." from the number of 10-inch mortar shells dropped into the earth, which exploded and raised clouds of dust that obscured everything in the vicinity for some moments.

In this instance a few of us had watched the flight of the shell but the general saw the bomb only the moment before it struck and its windage threw him to the ground. Le was unhurt and, conscious that time was precious, before the explosion he had rolled himself sufficiently away to escape the shock but not the earthy shower, from the dust of which he presently emerged, intently considering an unlit cigar.

"Logan," he said cheerily to that general, who, in the full bloom of a clean white shirt, hastened to him, how can you keep so clean in such a dusty place?" This escape was followed by another

few afternoons later, when a shell landed by the front pole of the awning in a permanent, most healthy and pleasant bush before Logan's tent, and eight generals: Grant among them, rolled hasti-Ty out of the shelter to meet uninjured when the dust cleared away from the recent place of conference.

Lost Again. If every one could have the advan-

tage of early education, what a deal of unnecessary worry would be saved! The Kennebec Journal says: The janitor of one of the Portland public schools, coming into the class room one day recently, saw on the blacktoard this sentence:

"Find the greatest common divisor." "Hulio!" said he. "Is that consarned full particulars, free? E. C. ALLEN & CO.
Box No. 420, Augusts, Me. thing lost again?"

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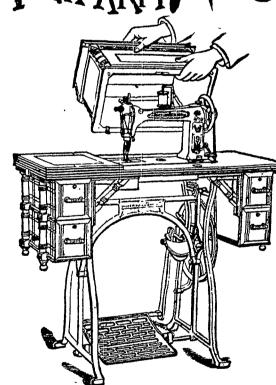
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