A	SONG	OF	301
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Joy came in youth as a humming bird, (Sing hey' for the honey and bloom of life!) And it made a home in my summer bower With the honey-suckle and the sweetpea flower. (Sing hey! for the blossoms and

sweets of life!)

Joy came as a lark when the years had gone,

(Ah! hush, hush still, for the dream is short!)

And I gazed far up to the melting blue Where the rare song dropped like a golden dew. (Ah, sweet is the song though the

dream be short)

Joy hovers now in a far-off mist, .(The night draws on and the a ir breathes snow!)

And I reach, sometimes, with a trembling hand

To the red-tipped clou. of the joybird's land.

(Alas! for the days of the storm and the snow!) MOPHIA M. A. HENSLEY.

Lady Geraldine Mauleverer sat in her dressing-room comfortably habited in dressing gown and slippers, glancing fondly now and again at a large morocco case which stood open on her dressing-table, and contained a magnificent necklace of diamonds. Lady Geraldine had just rejurned from the county ball where her dress had eclipsed that of every other woman and her diamonds had outshone all other constellations of gems and she was consequently in an agreeal e frame of mind.

"Dear old thing," said Lady Geraldine, half aloud. "What should I do without you? And to think how nearly I was to having to give up wearing diamonds. What a nuisance it is to be har up, and have debts, and a husband that has gone to the dogs and disappeared, and does not keep one supplied with pocket money. But I can still beat the other womenthanks to my own ingenuity-and no one knows but Marie, who has eyes like a lynx. Heigho!"

Lady Geraldine sighed, and gettled herself a little more comfortably in her chair. She was not a woman whom one would naturally be enclined to pity, but she had her troubles. Married young to Capt. Mauleverer of the Blues, she had spent a year of happiness, to be followed by two years of estrangement and mutual recrimination. Capt. Mauleverer proved a bad bargain; bad in every sense of the word, and when three years after the marriage the discovery of a shady transaction in which he was involved compelled his flight from the country, Lady Geraldine found the liberty thus gained decidedly agreeable. She was clever, if not intellectual, and a general favorite at country houses. She had inherited an income of some eight hundred a year from an aunt which enabled her to dress with some extravagance, and to keep up a small house near York, which had come to her as bequest. Her most dearly beloved possession was an old family heirloom, a necklace of diamond, reset in the modern style, and worth so much money that her friends had often remonstrated with her on keeping them in the house with no one to defend them but an elderly butler and a couple of maids. Lady Geraldine, however, laughed all such suggestions to scorn. She was not a nervous woman, and declared herself a match for any burglar. While Lady Geraidine sat comfortably reviewing her triumphs of the evening, she heard on the soft carpet behind her a light footfall, and supposed it was her maid.

ler, quite unruffled, "how you are going to avoid it. Johnson is away, and there of the affair?" are only two women besides yourself in the house. I think you had better make the exchange with a good grace, though I can realize that you do not enjoy your position.' Lady Geraldine looked keenly at the

"I do not exactly see," said the burg-

man for a few moments, and then, with her foot, pushed a chair towards him. "You are rather interesting," sne said. "Sit down for a few minutes, and let us talk. You will find cigar-

ettes in that case, and Meraschino in the cellaret " The burglar took the chair offered

him, but declined both tobacco and licuor, on the ground that he never smoke or drank in business hours. "Don't you find that mask rather unpleasantly stuffy?" inquired the lady. "If you would like to take it off, don't

mind me in the least. "And have my description in the paper to-morrow?" replied the burglar.

"No, thank you." "I thick that I could give it in my

case." said the 'ady "Listen" 'A tall, fair man, about to y ars of age, scar on right temple, a eyebrow blue eyes, rather close together, dark eyebrows-"You nesch't go on, Geraldine," said

the man pulling off the mask, and flinging it on the table. "I see you know me well erough."

"Do you thick envone could live with you for three years and not know you preity well Arthur " usked the lady in a tone that mode her visitor wince. "I knew you ... - ne to the devil, but I did not this, you had come down to robbing your wife."

"If you do not want to lose your lewes said than Met vice. "write me a check for four thousand, and call it source."

Lady Gera'dine laughed bitterly. "This is a delightful reunion of two dissevered scals that ought to beat as one. I am af aid, Arthur, you do most

of the 'beating,' don't you? No, 1 don't think I will write you a check. My bank account is too low. How much money have you?

"I have two hundred pounds, and upon my honor-well, upon the Bible -I have no more. With what I can get on your jewels, I sha'l have enough to leave the country and become another man "

"A laudable ambition, certainly," said Lady Geraldine. "I will offer you arother suggestion. Suppose we make this a regular business transaction. Rather than be robbed. I will sell you the lewels for half of your two hundred and give you a receipt to the effect that it was a regular sale.'

countenance, "are you not going to PHILOSOPHIC BREVITIES congratulate me on my management Fancy laid down the case, and placto be shot at sight. ing his hands on his knees, took a

long stare at Mauleverer. "How long have you and me been Diting. pardners?" he asked.

"Five months or thereabouts," said the captain, airily, 'why do you ask?" "Because," said the other, deliberately, "you and me can't be pardners no longer. It won't pay Fancy Wills to be any more pardners with a d---fool

The captain started to his feet with an oath. "What do you mean?" he said.

"How much do you reckon them diamonds is worth?" Fancy asked, with an ugly grin. "About four thousand, after deducting expenses, I should reckon," re-

plied the captain, fiercely. "What are you grinning at, you old villian?" "I'm a grinnin' at you," replied

Fancy, showing every yellow tooth in his head. "I'm grinnin' at the handsome captain that got played for a feel by his wife. Ho! ho! ho! what a larf : she must have had on you. I'll tell you what them diamonds is worth. They're a good quality of paste, and at the outside they're worth about twen- ; ty quid."

Why Doctors ten mi Setorde. Statistics show that the medical pro-

fession is more prone to suicide than any other. During the last three years the number of suicides occuring among physicians in the United Kingdom has been, respectively, 45, 49 and 47 per annum, an average of nearly one to; 2,000, or, as the death rate among physicians, is about 25 to 1,000, nearly one-fiftieth of all the deaths in the profession have been by suicide. It has been suggested that an explantation of this tendency may be found in the development of morbid fancies in the mind of a doctor, on account of his constant association with the sick and dying, or because he has the requisite knowledge of how to dis painlessly and conveniently.

'A medical journal dessents from all these views, and holds that the leading factor in the accessibility of the poison drugs, which are almost invariably used.

Suicide is largely a matter of insane impulse. Imagine a man fatigued in body and depressed in spirits-as a doctor often is-swayed by an overwhelming conviction of the utter wearlness of life to the impulse of suicide. If he had but to put on his hat and walk to the chemist's and tax his ingenuity for a lie with which to explain his desire for poison, he might post-

Temptation is a spy upon our virtue, Slanderers cannot burn long without

Cities are the tombs of nature, the cradles of art. Timidity is the bait all the wolves of

the field snap at.

Man's cowardice is best proved by his idolatrous worship of courage.

Experience has a circular orbit-if unobserved, it will call again.

Sentimentalism is lack of thought under an illusion of love.

Courage is an iron string, but it

makes the music humanity most cares for. It is hard to resent a universal evil, therefore humanity is tolerant of vice

in general.

The coldest heart has its cory nooks where the frost-flowers look rather summery at times.

Physically life has perhaps more pleasure than pain; mentally or morally it is very doubtful.

Good and evil are magnets. Good is the more powerful, but evil acts at less distance,

Reason brings our vices into court. Self-love examines them-and discharges them.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

The meaner a man is the more agreeable he tries to be.

A chainless wheel is far more desirable than a chainless dog,

Hope for the best, prepare for the worst and take what comes.

A poet says that hunger acts as a timulant to original thought,

There is nothing so apt to make a man economize as the lack of money.

It takes a clover woman to obtain information without asking quations.

Some girls sing like nightingsles. and some others like gales in the night.

It's a pity that a man can never see himself in a poker game as others "see" him.

The first thing a widow door at-



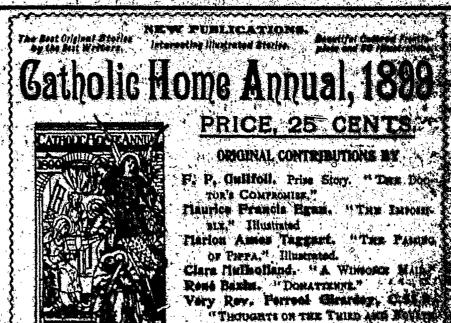
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Beating other Mustralis erebales, the notable sounds of the for

"You had better put them away in the safe, Marie," she said.

"You are very kind," said a masculine voice, in low tones. "That is exactly what I propose to do. I have a safe that will hold them admirably."

With a slight shrick the lady turned and saw, standing close behind her, the figure of a tall man, dressed entirely in black, and wearing a silk mask which concealed the upper part of his face. In his right hand he held a silver mounted pistol, the muzzle of which was directed towards her heart

"Let me advise you not to make any outcry," said the stranger, whose gently modulated voice contrasted oddly with his threatening attitude. "I should be sorry to make any fuss but I really cannot afford to have the house aroused."

Lady Geraldine could certainly not be called a nervous woman, and after the first shock of surprise, she rallied her faculties amazingly, and smiled, while the color returned to her cheeks.

"This is rather an unceremonious visit, isn't it?" she said. "Gentlemen -for I gather from your voice that you are gentlemen, and gentlemen do not a a rule invade ladies' rooms with re volvers, and wearing masks-may I ask what you want?"

"I want your diamonds, nothing else, believe me." replied the intruder. "My diamonds?" cried the lady, "surely you would not be so cruel as

to rob me of my chief charms?" "Pardon me," said the visitor, "only time can do that."

Lady Geraldine laughed. "For an avowed burglar," she said, "you are immensely polite. Do not find it pays in your profession? I suppose it is useful to wheedle servant girls, but you see I am not a servant, and am proot against fiattery. A diamond necklace for a compliment is rather too high a price."

"You take it coolly, my girl," said Captain Mauleverer, "I always said you were a well plucked 'one. Well, let it be as you say.".

He took out a pocketbook and counted out ten ten-pound notes on the table; then he wrote on a sheet of crested paper. "Received from Captain Arthur Mauleverer the sum of one hundred pounds, as the price of a diamond neck'ace."

"Sign it." he said, handing it to his wife, and at the same time picking up the lewel-case and dropping it into his pocket.

Lady Geraldine appended her signature and carefully counted the money. "Don't hinnie me if you are sorry for your barghin, 'r hur," she said lightly. Captain Manieverer laughed. "Well, good-bye" he said. "It has been a queer meeting, hasn't it? I am off for Amsterdam to sell the stones, and then for Autoria. Will you shake hands before I go ?"

"Why not " said Lady Geraldine, light'v. A'ways shake hands over a good barrain. Good-bye, and if you harven to be in the neighborhood of Botany Bay, you will probably find the associations rather interesting."

She to the French window through which her husband had male his entrance and exit, and watched his figure disappear in the night; then she laughed softly to herself.

"Poor Arthur!" she said. "he is still very good logking. Heigho, I am afraid the poor fellow will be disappointed. What luck it was that I received that money in time." She rang the bell, and ir a few moments her maid made her appearance.

"Marie," she said, "I shall want you to go up to town by the early train. Go to Solomon's, and tell him I want a facsimile of my necklace as soon as he can make it. He has the stones to copy, and can repeat the setting as closely as possible. Now put me to bed, for I have had rather an exciting evening."

In a small room in the top of a low London lodging-house satan ill-favored man gnawing his nails, and glancing now and again at the door with an air of impatience. Presently a tread sounded on the crazy stair, and Captain Mauleverer entered the room with a jaunty air, and threw himself into a chair.

"Well," said the other, in a suriy tone, "did you work it."

"Like a charm," replied the Captain, "and saved my conscience."

"D-your conscience!" was the reply, "where's the stones."

"In my pocket," said the captain. "and a little receipt for the money paid to rthem." He took out the case and the receipt, and laid them on the table.

"What's this," said the surly man, "one hundred pounds? Do you mean to say you bought them?"

"What if I did?" replied the other, "Isn't it worth a hundred to get four or five thousand, and no risk of quod! Besides, it was my own cash."

The surly man grunted, and picked up the case, which he opened, while Mauleverer watched him in evident expectation of some complimentary remark.

"Well, Fancy," he said, having to gether anything from his friend's

pone the fatal act from mere inertia, or may meet a friend or have his interest in life aroused by one of a multitude of

everyday occurances, or physical exercise may bring him to his senses. If, however, as is the case with al-

most any doctor, he has simply to feel in his pockets, or walk across his room to get a deadly poison, the impulse may, be carried into execution before anything can happen to supplant it in the brain.

Lockwood's Client.

When the eminent English advocate, Sir Frank Lockwood, was a young man, he was retained to defend a ruffian accused of a desperate crime. There seemed little hope of saving the prisoner, and Lockwood said to him: "Take my advice and plead guilty and save the old man trouble. It's your only chance of getting a light rentence." The prisoner looked him up and down, and leaning over the bar of the dock said: "You fuzzle-headed beggar, what do you suppose I pay you for? For me to do your work that you can't do? Go back to your seat and do what you're paid for!" Lockwood

went back and got the man acquitted. Spoke for Twenty-Six Hours. The longest speech on record was

made by Mr. de Cosmos in the legislature of British Columbia when a measure was pending to confiscate the lands of settlers. He was in a hope-

less minority, and the enemy expected to rush the bill through at the end of the session. It was 10 in the morning; at noon the next day, if no action were taken, the act of confiscation would fail. De Cosmos arose, spoke for twenty-six hours continuously, and then with baked lips, bloodshot eyes, and almost dead with fatigue, he won the victory that nearly cost him his life.

The Country Postmaster.

A new postoffice was established in a small village away out West, and a native of the soil was appointed postmaster. After a while complaints were made that no mail was sent out from the new office, and an inspector was sent to inquire into the matter. He called upon the postmaster, and stating the cause of his visit, asked why no mail had been sent out. The postmaster pointed to a big and nearly empty mail bag hanging up in a corner

and said: "Well, I ain't sent it out 'cause the bag ain't nowhere nigh full yet."

Size of the British Empire.

At the present moment the British empire is fifty-three times the size of France, fifty-two times that of Germany, three and a half times that of the United States of America, thrice the size of Europe, with treble the population of all the Russias. It ertends over 11,000,000 square miles, occupies one-fifth of the globe containing one-fifth of the human race, or \$50,000,000 people, embraces four continents, 10,000 islands, 500 promonotories and 2,000 rivers.

An American physician in China Hist saved many a line writes that he has been specially im-pressed by the vitality of the natives. pressed by the vitality of the natives Of a bundred cases treated in a dispensary, some of them very serious, not one proved fatal.

ter making up her mind to appoint her late husband's successor is to make up her face.

It is harder for a photographer to make a baby look pleasant than it is for the haby to make the photographer look unpleasant,

OUT OF THE VEST POCKET. Neither camels nor elephants can

jump. Tea plantations in India obver 25,000 acres.

There are always 5,000 British vessels at sea.

Field rats are considered good eating in Cuba. Elephants can exert the strength of

31 horses. Savages, on the whole, live longer,

than civilized people. A carrier pigeon service was estab-

lished by the Turks A. D. 567. Sicilian laborers are glad to get ten

pence a day for 14 hours' work, Germans weigh nearly ten pounds each man more than Frenchmon." The heat of comets is said to be 2,000

times greater than redhot from A church in Soldlitz, in Bohamia,

contains a chandeller made of human bones, It is claimed that at present the Eng-

lish language is spoken by 115 000.000, people."

ALL BORTS IN A NUTSHELL

The American navy has practically all been built since 1883.

More than 75 per cent. of the trade of Egypt is with British possessions. The state of Texas is about 75,000 square miles larger in area than Spain. In Berlin nearly all the repairs of the principal water we stand at night.

It is proposed to introduce bats and sect. pestal in the state of the state

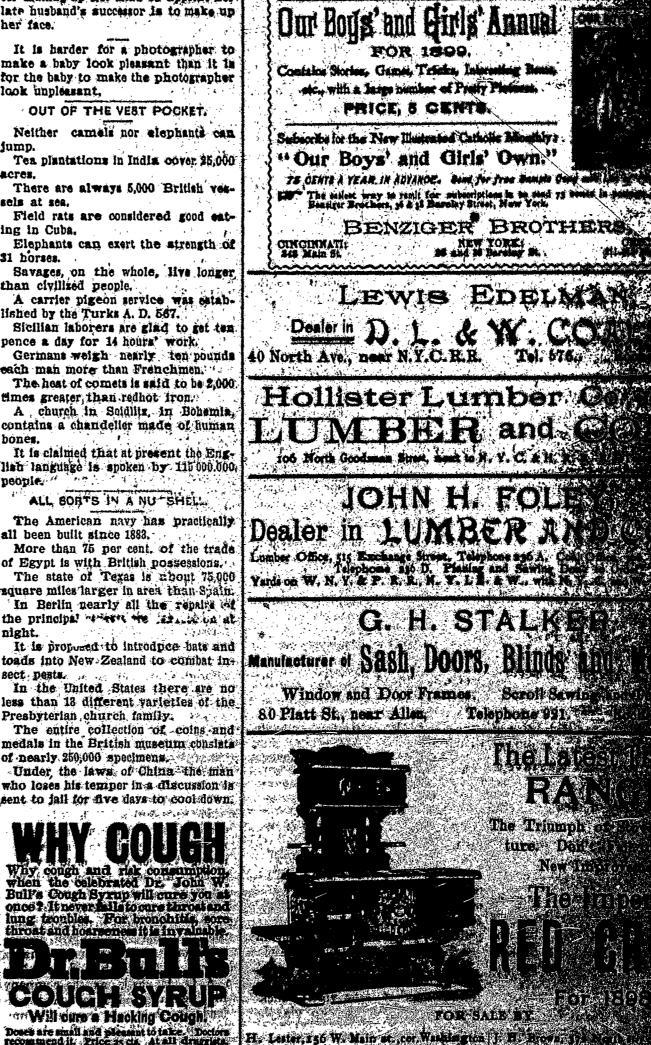
In the United States there are no less than 18 different varieties of the Presbyterian church family.

The entire collection of -coins and medals in the British museum consists of nearly 250,000 specimens. Under the laws of China the man who loses his temper in a discussion is sent to jail for five days to cool down.

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