

Original Poetry.

For the Herald. HYPOCRASY.

How many do in worship bow to thee, Then dawn bright, thou vile hypocrisy...

SONG OF THE ROBIN.

Of all the fine birds that e'er flew in the air, There is none with the bird of my love can compare...

Literature.

THE HONEST COBBLER.

Jared Gropp sat in his little shop upon his wooden bench, and he pegged and tapped away merrily upon his well-worn knees.

The York Herald,

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Whole No. 73.

ow, my maple sugar, we'll be off. Bring up the little Groppes.

Hardly had Heppy departed when a man made his appearance at the shop door.

"Are you a cobbler?" he asked as he entered.

"I was two minutes ago, sir; but now I am an old feudal baron! Lady Gropp is gone to ride out, sir, and I'm to attend her."

"Eh—are you the man that does mending of boots and shoes?" asked the visitor, moving back a pace, as though he feared the strange fellow before him was crazy.

"Yes, sir," answered Jared. "I'm the man; but, ye see, my wife hasn't walked out for mor'n a month. I've just tossed off the last bit of work I had in the shop, I'd hurried it amazingly, and was agoin' to take a run down the river, with her and the ones."

"Aha—I see," said the old gentleman, smiling. "Now just run and tell your lady to wait for you half an hour, and I'll satisfy her for it. I am in a hurry. The stage leaves in an hour, and my boot has given out."

"Come you won't refuse to assist me under such circumstances?"

"Eh dum de fol! Well, I s'pose I must stick to my business."

"Thus speaking, Jared left the shop and when he returned he put on his apron, and settled in his low seat. The boot was ripped badly. Jared made a stout wax end, singing merrily the while, and when 'twas ready he took up the boot."

"You seem to be a happy fellow," said the visitor, after he had watched Jared's good natured face awhile.

"Why shouldn't I be? I owe no man anything—have my health—and love to do my work. Tol de rol rol de lardo!"

"You have laid by something for a rainy day?" pursued the stranger.

"Ay, thousands upon thousands of dollars, sir!" cried Jared, giving his awl a furious punch.

There's no such a word as complaint, For by it we nothing can gain, Save trouble and all mental pain, With a fai-de-rol-de-di-de!

No, no, sir. I've got enough, and that's more'n everybody's got. The boot was finished, and the old man took out a golden guinea.

"I don't want any change. Take it all. A shilling is to pay you for mending my boot; and the rest is for your wife and children, to pay them for the loss of their walk. Come don't disappoint me."

Jared took the coin, and though his thankfulness was deep, his expression was simple and polite.

The old man put on his boot and went away. The wife came in and Jared showed his treasure. They were as rich as monarchs now. They danced and sang and danced again.

However, after this, they went and took their walk—they and their children. The eldest child was only twelve years, and the youngest was two. Tommy and Johnny were twins. They were a jolly looking family.

When Jared returned and entered his shop, the first thing he saw was a green silk purse. He picked it up and found it full of gold.

"What shall we do with it?" he said uneasily.

The wife pondered a long while, and finally replied: "Let's take it down cellar and hide it. Then we shan't be robbed of it, nor we shan't lose it; and when he comes we shall have it for him."

"But supposing he should never come, Heppy?"

"Then we will leave it for our children, and they may use it."

"Heppy, my delight you are right!"

So they went down into their narrow cellar, and having looked all around they finally removed a stone from the wall, put the purse in—having first rolled it up in many thicknesses of stout paper—and then put the stone back as it was before.

On the following day the cobbler watched for the stage, and when it came he went to see if the old gentleman had come back.—This he did every day for months, and no old man came.

At the end of that time Jared was taken sick, and for a long time the doctor despaired of his life. And Jared was very poor, too. Many a night the children went supperless to bed.

for some moments in silence, and finally said he would go. So Jared led the way to his little cot.

Here my love, said the cobbler addressing his wife, let us have a candle, the gentleman has come for his purse.

We haven't got a candle, Jared; but have something that will answer.

And thus speaking, Heppy went out, and when she returned she brought a pine knot which she lighted at the fire. Jared took this, and turned towards the cellar, and the stranger followed him.

I can get it sir. Go on; I'll follow you.

The cobbler said no more, but hobbled down two narrow steps, and when he came to that part of the wall where the purse had been concealed, he asked his companion to hold the torch. The latter did so, and then Jared removed the stone and drew forth a parcel, all damp and mildewed. They returned to the upper room where Jared unfolded the stout papers and produced the purse uninjured.

Here, sir; here is your purse, just as I found it.

The old man emptied out the broad gold pieces and counted them—just fifty of them. He then returned them to the purse and looked into Jared's face.

Have you suffered for want of money during your sickness?" he asked.

"Much, sir, much, was the answer."

And you had this gold by you all the while?

It wasn't ours, sir, Oh, I may have suffered had I taken that. It wasn't mine, it was yours. Take it sir; and when you remember poor old Jared Gropp and his seven children, and his own wife, you'll say they weren't harmed, but you'll say they were honest."

Gropp? Gropp? Gropp? repeated the old man, fixing his gaze not upon Jared, but upon his wife. You are not from England, are you? turning to Jared.

Yes, sir, answered the cobbler. From what part?

From Deventry, among the hills of Northampton.

honest mind that any pecuniary good was to grow out of this.

But it was indeed Heppy's own brother, and one of the chief objects he had in view when he first started on his travels, was to find his sister if possible. He had forgotten her husband's name, having heard it but once in India, and then only casually in conversation with a man who had just come out. The old man was rich; and now that he had found the only living relative he had on earth he resolved to settle down with her.

A large house, on a beautiful eminence, the wealthy owner of which had died, was for sale, and uncle George bought it; and thither he took his sisters family. And in after time there was some great doings in that large house. The little Gropps had a competent teacher, and they became prodigious of learning.

KING OF DAHOMEY.—A correspondent of the Boston Post, writing from Badagry, West Africa, under date of September 27, gives the following characteristic of an influential gentleman of Africa:—"Da-homey is governed probably by the most tyrannical monarch in the whole world. His word is law, and whoever thwarts him loses his head without the least ceremony; but I must say it is by far the best governed country I have seen in Africa. He is king of the most powerful and warlike people on this continent, and is continually engaged in hostilities against the smaller and weaker tribes, to obtain prisoners, many of whom are sold as slaves, and large numbers are sacrificed upon the death of any favorite of his majesty. While I was at Whydah he offered up 300 victims at the funeral ceremonies of one of his chiefs. At the death of King Guzo, who died last November, 800 captives were killed, besides 200 of his favorite wives. Since then the number of victims killed by this bloodthirsty wretch for his father, is 2,400. Previous to my going to Whydah, the King had sent his messengers with his cane, commanding all people, black and white, who were trading in his country, to appear at Da-homey, to attend the grand custom in honor of the late King, his father. As I was not in Whydah at the time, the message was sent to me saying that he had been successful in his expeditions and had taken 3,000 prisoners, whose blood would be used to wash the graves of his ancestors. Whenever the king's name is mentioned, all within hearing fall down and kiss the earth, and cover themselves with dust. They would not deliver the message to me until I stood up and took off my hat.—You have to take the cane in your hand during the delivery of the message, when you are supposed to be in direct communication with the king; the messengers all the time are prostrate on the ground. Three men are always sent, one to watch the others and see the message is given as received. This is always the case when any message is sent to the next world, to see that the way is not lost. The present king's title is Reernee Reernee, which means the lion, at whose name both man and best fee. About three months ago the fetish told the king that people of a certain village were the means of the late king's death.—He consequently attacked them and killed every soul—six hundred in number—not sparing one. So much for this wholesale butcher."

Use of Adversity.—You wear out your old clothes. You are not troubled with many visitors. You are exonerated from making calls. Bored do not bore you.—Sponges do not haunt your table. Tax-gatherers hurry past your door. Littered bands do not play opposite your window. You avoid the nuisance of serving on juries. You are not persecuted to stand god-father. No one thinks of presenting you with a testimonial. No tradesman irritates you by asking, "Is there any other little article to-day, sir?" You practice temperance. You swallow infinitely less poison than others. Flatterers do not shoot their rubbish into your ears. You are saved many a debt, many a deception, many a head-ache. And lastly, if you have a true friend in the world, you are sure in a very short space of time to learn it.—Selected.

THE UNIVERSAL METAMORPHOSIS.—If a wafer be laid on a surface of polished metal, which is then breathed upon, and if, when the moisture of the breath has evaporated, the wafer be shaken off, we shall find that the whole polished surface is not as it was before, although our senses can detect no difference; for if we breathe again upon it, the surface will be moist everywhere except on the spot previously sheltered by the wafer, which will now appear as a spectral image on the surface. Again and again we breathe, and the moisture evaporates, but still the spectral wafer reappears. This experiment succeeds after a lapse of many months, if the metal be carefully put aside where its surface cannot be disturbed. If a sheet of paper, on which a key has been laid, be exposed for some minutes to the sunshine, and then instantaneously viewed in the dark, the key being removed, a fading spectre of the key will be visible. Let this paper be put aside for many months where nothing can disturb it, and then in darkness be laid on a plate of hot metal, the spectre of the key will again appear. In the case of bodies more highly phosphorescent than paper, the spectres of many different objects which may have been laid on in succession will, on warming, emerge in their proper order. This is equally true of our bodies and our minds. We are involved in the universal metamorphosis. Nothing leaves us wholly as it found us. Every man we meet, every book we read, every picture or landscape we see, every word or tone we hear, mingles with our being and modifies it.

YOUNG LADIES IN THE COUNTRY.—In the country it ought to be an unnatural circumstance that young ladies are ever out of health. Besides the fresh air, and liberty and sociability of rural life, there is such various and abundant and charming employment for young people.—Early hours, plentiful exercise, sunlight without stint, and an ocean of fresh air; food perpetually fresh from the kitchen garden, the farm-yard, and the river—here are conditions of health of very high value. The higher still seem to be no less plentifully afforded. In a country neighbourhood everybody knows everybody; and the calls for kindly action are incessant and perfectly natural. There are out-door pursuits for the whole year round for girls of any spirit—the garden and green-house, the poultry yard, the bees, and various branches of natural history, in which there is at present a demand for ability of every kind. Literature, again, and art are treasures within reach, and nowhere do they flourish more than in the bright atmosphere of rural life. Evenings of books are singularly charming after mornings of activity among the realities of the farm, the breezy common, the blossoming lanes, and the village school.

JOURNEYMAN BAKERS.—Of the bread eaten in London a large proportion comes handled very often, also trodden with bare feet, after long fermentation. Of bakers' men only about 14 in 100 have a look of health; while of carpenters, who also work in-doors, 72 in 100 are robust. Among bakers' journeymen no less than 70 in 100 are found to complain of positive disease. "I have met," says a Manchester surgeon, "with more than twice as many cases of disease among the bakers as among all other artisans put together; the number of men in each case being equal." Of a visit from a deputation of journeymen the same witness says:—"They came to me in a body late in the evening, and on entering the waiting-room the effect was startling—so many shrunken, pale, anxious countenances, combined with the ghastly looks of some of them, and their dusty habiliments, it seemed more like a visit from the tenants of the tomb than from what ought to have been hearty, sound constituted men." A journeyman baker is considered to be used up at the age of 40.—Dicken's All the Year Round.

TRANSPLANTING. Prepare for transplanting. Peach, Cherry, Dwarf Pear Trees, and Evergreens are transplanted with more safety in the spring than in the fall. Strawberry beds should also be prepared immediately, as the best time for transplanting is during April and May. Let the strawberry bed have a plentiful supply of decayed leaves; discard all manure except those formed from decayed vegetable substances. For the benefit of those desirous of decorating the space in front and around their dwellings, we give the names of a few of the most beautiful evergreens:—First, then, comes the Rhododendron Catawbiense, or "tree of Roses," as its name implies. It is one of the most beautiful shrubs grown, and is a complete evergreen, with leaves of a thick texture, and bears large clusters of white, lilac, and crimson flowers. The Siberian Arbor Vitea is one of the best lawn plants. It grows very symmetrical. The Cryptomeria Japonica is a beautiful and graceful lawn plant, but is not so hardy as the foregoing. It does best on a good soil, with a dry bottom.—The Golden Arbor Vitea is a superb plant, deserving the most conspicuous place on the lawn or grass plot. In habit it is a dwarf, forming a smooth, symmetrical cone. It is not a hardy plant, however, and is liable to be injured by our severe winters. The Small-leaved Cotton-aster, Tree Box, Japan Euonymus, Broad-leaved Laurel, Fiery Thorn, and the English Yew and the Red Wood, are all deserving of a place in every collection. The two last mentioned, however, are almost too tender for this climate. About the middle of May is the best time to plant. No manure is required for Evergreens, only take care that in planting the roots are not cramped.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

It gives us great pleasure to be able to lay before those of our readers who are interested in raising sheep, some extracts from an article written by John Wilson, Professor of Agriculture in the University of Edinburgh, on 'The Various Breeds of Sheep in Great Britain,' published in the Royal Agricultural Society's Journal, Vol. 16. It is an able and interesting article, but our space will only permit us to give the portion that seems of most importance.

The New Leicester is now perhaps the most widely extended and most numerous of all our native breeds. The sheep are without horns, with white faces and legs; the head small and clean, the eye bright; neck and shoulders square and deep; back straight with deep carcase; hind quarters tapering towards the tail, and somewhat deficient when compared with the Cotswold sheep; legs clean, with fine bone. The flesh juicy, but of moderate quality, and is remarkable for its proportion of outside fat.

They are not considered so hardy as the other large breeds, and require shelter and good keep. The ewes are neither very prolific nor good mothers, and the young lambs require great attention. Early maturity and aptitude for fattening are the principal characteristics of the breed, a large proportion of the wethers find their way to market at 12 to 15 months old, and weighing from 80 to 100 lbs. each. At 2 years old they average 120 to 150 lbs. each. The wool is a valuable portion of the flock, the fleece averaging 7 lbs. each. The occasional introduction of a little Cotswold blood into Leicester flock has the effect of improving both the constitution of the animals and also the hind quarters, in which the Leicester is somewhat defective. Ram-breeding is carried out to a much larger extent with this breed than with any other.

SOUTHDOWN.—The Southdown sheep of the present day are without any horns, and with dark brown faces and legs; the size and weight have been increased; the fore-quarters improved in width and depth; the back and loins have become broader, and the ribs more curved, so as to form a straight and level back; the hind quarters are square and full, the tail well set on, and the limbs shorter and finer in the bone. These results are due to the great and constant care which has been bestowed on the breed by Ellman and his contemporaries, and by his successors, whose flocks fully sustain the character of the improved breed. The sheep, though fine in form and symmetrical in appearance, and very hardy, keeping up their conditions on moderate pasture, and readily adapting themselves to the different districts and systems of farming in which they are now met with.—They are very docile, and thrive well even when folded on the artificial pastures of an arable farm. Their disposition to fatten enables them to be brought into the market at 12 and 15 months old, when they average 80 lbs. weight each. At two years old they will weigh from 100 to 120 lbs. each. The meat is of fine quality, and commands the highest price in the market. The ewes are very prolific, and are excellent mothers, commonly rearing 120 to 130 lambs to the 100 ewes. The fleece, which closely covers the body, produces the most valuable of our native wools. It is short in the staple, fine and curling, with spiral ends, and is used for carding purposes generally.

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