No Time Like the Old Time. BY O. W. HOLMES.

There is no time like the old time, when you and l were young,
When the buds of April blossomed and the birds of

spring-time sung!

The garden's brightest glories by summer suns are nursed,
But oh, the sweet, sweet violets, the flowers that opened first!

There is no place like the old place where you and I were born,
Where we lifted first our cyclids on the splendors of

where we inter miss our cycles of the specials of the moin

From the milk-white breast that warmed us, from the clinging arms that bore,

Where the dear eyes glistened o'er us that will look on us no more

There is no love like the old love that we courted in Though our leaves are falling, falling, and we're fad-

ing side by side,
There are blossoms all around us with the colors of our dawn,
And we live in horrowed sunshine when the light of

There is no friend like the old friend who has shared our morning days,

No greeting like his welcome, no homage like his

praise; Fame is the scentless sunflower, with gaudy crown of gold,

But friendship is the breathing rose, with sweets in

every fold

There are no times like the old times—they shall never be forgot!

There is no place like the old place—keep green the dear old spot!

There are no friends like our old friends—may heaven prolong their lives!

There are no loves like our old loves—God bless our loving wives!

CARRYING DISPATCHES.

During the hottest part of the last Amer ican war, I was stationed at Dunn's Fort, one of the longe line of military posts scattered at distant intervals near the southern shores of Lake Erie. Our fort was unusual-y strong in position, occupying the summit of a conical hill, surrounded by a tableland; and though many a fierce assult had been made against it; though our outer stockade had been a ring of flame; though thousands of Indians had leaped, and yelled and raged against our ramparts, and the sharp-shooters sent a bullet through each which showed above its shelter, our walls were still intact, nay, stronger than at the first; for after each attack we were sure to perceive some weak point, which even our limited means enabled us to strengthen, until at length Dunn's Fort stood upon its hill as complete a fortification in its way as was possible to see.

Gradually all the neighbouring posts fell beneath the overwhelming numbers the enemy were able to bring against then; the remnants of their little garrisons either fighting their way through their assailants, or departing under the terms of a capitulation, all found a refuge with us, until our garrison was tolerably numerous, and the brave old bunting above our heads, the only British flag that floated on the breeze for more than a hundred miles. However, this latter circumstance brought on us an evil we had not foreseen. The enemy, no longer engaged in harassing a dozen posts, gradually concentrated round Dunn's Fort, until we found ourselves within a complete cordon of foes, who watched us so closely, night and day, that it seemed scarce a pigeon could fly through the air or a mole make its under ground way without their knowledge.

It soon appeared their intention was rather to cut off our supplies, and reduce us, than hazard another assault, though we were almost nightly disturbed by feigned attacks, which the least disregard might have converted into real ones, and which compelled us to burn our powder in a way we could little afford. Fortunately, a deep well within our defences furnished us with water, of which our enemies could not deprive us, but we soon began to feel the loss of the supplies they so rigorously intercept-There was plenty of jesting on the subject at first, for hunger and hardship are evils the British soldier bears with a light heart. But soon we had more serious anxiety -our powder was getting low, and we began to fear a time might come when there would be nothing but bayonets wherewith to repulse an assault.

Tidings of our condition had twice been sent to head-quarters by the only two friend ly Indians we had, who undertook separetely to "run the blockade" established around us. Anxiously we looked for the aid we had requested, but it never came; and the persistence of the enemy in endeavouring to draw our fire, convinced us that our messengers with their dispatches had fallen into their hands. It was evident some one else must carry the news, or try to do so, and I was delighted when, out of the six young subalterns who volunteered, the lot fell to me.

It was a little past midnight when I shook hands with my friends, and stole out of the fort to commence what all knew to be a hazardous undertaking. The night was intensely dark; there was no moon, and a cloudy veil shrouded the stars as I commenced my enterprise. My first difficulty was how to descend the hill, for a human form shewing against even that dark sky would have called forth a dozen shots. However. I safely effected it by creeping Indian-like at full length down a hollow, until at the foot I paused in the lee of a huge pudding-stone to recover breath, and decide how I had best proceed.

Another moment, and I heard the tread of an approaching patrol. I lay still as death, while they passed within a yard of me, jesting coarsely in their nasal tones on the straits to which they were reducing the Britishers," who, as they truly observed,

After the patrol had past, I spent a full some gap in the living girdle through which I man in a short gown and sun-bonnet appearmight glide unperceived; but every thicket was in possession of the enemy, while the was in possession of the enemy, while the was in possession of the enemy, while the open spaces between could be scanned at a glance by a ring of sentinels, who held their posts with a vigilance not a little stimulated by their hatred of the British foe. A furiful first hatred or the same which within a loop of was a second armed circle, and become a third so that we were shut within a loop of the same with the latest at the lat yond, a third, so that we were shut within a

triple belt of enemics.

Meanwhile, the clouds had vanished from the sky, giving place to ten thousand stars, which flashed down through the sumsummoned her "oud man" from his work mer night, rendering it scarce darker than twilight, and doubling the risk of discovery. At length the nearest sentinel began whistle Yankee Doodle as he steadily trod his beat: I took it for a good omen, and when he turned the tune and his back, I darted on to the shelter of a stump, and hence to that of a knot of prairie-grass, and so was past him. The second row of guards

Every kindness in their pow

next engaged my attention; the individual ly lavished on me; and when I was dryly among them it was my aim to pass, was clad in a suit of Adam Burdon's gray homeamong them it was my aim to pass, was staring carnestly enough about him with his great lacklustre eyes; but suddenly a screaming and screeching, and a fierce flutter of feathers, broke the silence; two nighthawks had attacked the same titmouse, and they were doing battle in the air over their The American looked overhead to watch the combatants, and quick as thought, I crept along the ground to a neighboring gully, in whose depths I sped down safely to the precincts of the third and last military Argus I expected to encounter. But here the shelter of the hollow failed me, and I was glad to crouch beside an adjoining bush to await the next opportunity.

This did not seem likely to arrive very

specdily. My new opponent neither whistled nor noticed anything in heaven or earth save his duty, and about that he appeared very wide awake indeed, looking beligerently under every stone, and almost into every stump, as if he thought Britishers were no bigger than tree-frogs. On he came, treading heavily on the parched grass, and turnin his progress.

my refuge, but in my desire to keep a watch on him, I slightly shook a spray; the sharp eve of the American at once perceived the vibration, and he bounded towards the bush; but at the same moment I started to my feet, and closed with him, seizing his musket before he was prepared for such an encounter. For a moment there was a fierce struggle, and then I succeeded in wresting the eapon from him, a victory he avenged by a loud cry, which was in fact the alarm. In my turn, I avenged the cry by a blow with stunned and harmless on the ground; then throwing the gun beside him, I started off at full speed across the plain.

As I fled, I could hear the alarm pass like a long reverberating echo round the outposts of the enemy, followed by the rapid tread of the men who were already hurrying in pursuit. It needed but the remembrance of the importance of my mission to add wings to my steps, and I made an arrowy flight of it towards the Rashdai River, whose wooded banks promised to afford me shelter. But my pursuers had almost as urgent a motive as myself, since on my capture might depend the possession of the fort; and with swift and untiring footsteps they hastened

It was a breathless chase, over hills, across valleys, and past patches of bush, where I dared not seek shelter; every now and then an eager shout, or the sharp crack of a musket, breaking the silence, while the succeeding whiz of a bullet near me, showed my enemics were straight upon my track.

Day at length broke, and still that fearful race continued, though each moment I thought it must end, and that I must creep beneath some bush, and die. But the thought of my suffering comrades upheld me, and I still pressed on, and the fleet-footed men behind me pressed on also. At last, crossing a rising-ground, they sighted me; what a shout of savage triumph they sent echoing through the wilds !—it was like the howl of a wild beast, and gave fresh impetus to my flagging footsteps. A dozen muskets sent their leaden messengers after me, but, almost by a miracle, I escaped unhurt, and the next moment reaching the Rashadi bush, I plunged into its cover.

The foe still followed. I could hear them divide, and beat the bush in every direction, in quest of the human game they had almost driven to bay. Closer and closer they came, until I had but one resource left, and that a desperate one-to dash for the nearest hend of the river, and endeavor to swim across. was little hope for one so breathless and exhausted as I was. But my plunge into the water-which was unusually deep in-shore -suggested an expedient, and wading rapidly along close under the bank, I dived beneath the fringing hemlock boughs which dipped into the river a little further down, standing there up to my neck in water, with the clustering foliage sheltering my head from hostile eyes, I awaited the result.

Scarcely was I posted, when my pursuers were at the river's side in eager quest of me, wondering whether I lay like a stone at the bottom of the stream, or was darting like a fish through its waters; and muskets were levelled at every unfortunate duck which showed dark on its glancing surface. They

For three mortal hours I stood there, listening to the movements of my foes, and to left me.
their fierce repinings over their disappoint. As the ment. At length, they slowly and regretfully retired, and I was again free to move. The day was intensely hot, but I was cool enough; and when I emerged from the water, I was so stiff I could scarcely crawl. There was one comfort, however-my dispatches were not injured, since they were but verbal ones, that the enemy might learn no more secrets by killing or capturing me.

The exertion of walking rendered my legs

more usable, and following the course of the river, I went on diligently. But, after a time, the wind rose, and rushing through my saturated clothes, made me shiver as in which to erect the gibbet on which I should expiate the crime of British lineage and loyan ague.fit. I was really ill, and so utter alty. ly wearied and exhausted, that I coul t go no further I must find some nook to rest in. though the prospect of lying down in my

wet clothes was far from pleasant.

Looking round, 1 caught sight of a little cottage under the trees—one of the smallest have no Indians left, must run their errands of backwoods shanties, built of the still themselves if they wanted them carried. and with a short clay chimney like a stork's hour in dodging along from one tree or stump to another, still advancing on my way, though slowly, while I watched intently for reach the door, it opened, and an old wo-

come," she said, looking at my British uni-

in some unseen garden, to find me a change of clothes, while mine should be dried. Never were people more delighted than the simple couple, who, so far away from their own land, and dwelling in another which, since their settlement, had changed its allegiance, wait until my jailers slept. But the rehad rarely a chance of seeing a native of

spun, and had eaten and drunk, the wooden settle was drawn at one side the fire, that I might sleep, and the good dame ranged my wet garments on the other. Meanwhile Adam himself dried and burnished my dripping sword, and replacing it in the scabbard put it in a corner. The restoration of my pistols to usefulness would be a more tedious process, and it was for the present defer-

How long I had slept, I knew not, when I was awakened by a loud voice exclaiming with a Yankee drawl: "Mother, mother, where are you?

"Why, here, to be sure—where else should'st be?" answered the old dame cheerily as she came from the inner room. "But we had no thought to see thee, Jem."

"Then it is an unexpected pleasure," was somewhat gruttly replied; and I open young man, attired in some dark uniform, and with a bugle slung over one shoulder. To my infinite astonishment, he held ny ing right and left to inspect every object in his progress.

There was little hope that he would omit here, mother?" he added abruply, and glancing from me to my uniform.

"A lad fra' t' oud country; he was wet and weary, and I asked un in. He's an officer o' King George, but that's naught to

thee."
"No," he said roughly; "but he is a

spy of King George, and that is."

I indignantly denied the accusation, point ing out to the new-comer (whose last words had, to my surprise, announced him a parti-san of the United States) the scarlet coat which had only been removed to be dried, the butt-end of his musket, which laid him and the same time striving to regain my sword.

"Let it alone," he cried in a voice of thunder; then wresting it from me with hereulean strength, he dashed it through the window, scarce a foot square.

I sprang forward to go in quest of it, while the tones of the bugle rang deafeningly through the room; and when I opened the door, a band of armed men, similarly

"Stop, him!" cried young Burdon, "he is a spy!"

The next moment, twenty arms were thrown around me, and I stood as if shackled within their iron pressure. Never shall I forget the scene that followed—how, earnestly I disclaimed the character they thrust upon me, pointing again to the uniform I had so lately doffed. Young Burdon and his fellow Rifle-rangers would listen to no explanation; loudly and blusteringly, they exclaimed that they had found me, a British form of the condition of the cond officer, in colored clothes, and that I must abide the result; and without delay my arms were bound across my breast, and I was held close ward between two guards.

With tears his mother entreated my release, or that my blood would rest upon her Sadly and solemnly the father begged his son not to dishonour his humble roof; but the patriotic zeal of the young American soared high above all such filial weaknesses. and he laughed the suppliants to scorn.

"It was bad enough to have traitorous parents," he said, "without their making their house a nest for other traitors; and if frown on his brow, and a fiendis hflash in his meant.

a sad and heavy heart, for my mission had utterly failed, and I was a prisoner under a minious death. It was a sad end to all the high hopes and lofty aspirations with which almost unconsciously my thoughts wandered back to the home of my youth, and to those I loved, and I fervently prayed that they never might hear by how terrible a path the one so dear to them had passed out of the

Night at length fell on cur dreary march; soon after the red glow of a fire flashed above the trees, and we immediately made towards the spot. It proved to be the bivouac of a considerable body of Rifle rangers, with whom my captors joined company.

near the fire, between the guards, who never

As the night were on, higher and louder grew the enthusiasm of the Rangers in their country's cause ; they drank to her in fiercely worded toasts, and sang in her honour long snuffing ballads, brimful of rancour to-

At length their exaltation rose to the pitch of resolving, amid deafening cheers, that, as there could be no doubt of their prisoner's quilt. prisoner's guilt, they should execute him without delay; and dark as was the night,

It was horrible to sit there and watch their glee over their self-set task, horrible to think that probably within an hour I must know that my dying agonies would re-

joice my executioners. At last all was completed; a stout sapling was laid between the branches of two neighbouring trees, and even the fatal noose was dangling in my view, when, by a sudden whim, my captors resolved to delay my doom until morning. Again song, and toast, and gibe was resumed; but gradually the tumult settled down, until sleeping soundly on the grass—all save me and my warders, who sat watching me with staring eyes. I affected sleep also. As I lay, I could hear them discussing, in low tones, the particulars of the coming event; but after a time, that interesting subject failed, and no other succeeded it. Gradualfailed, and no other succeeded it. Gradually, the silence, the hour, and the fatigue they had undergone, did their work, and despite their best intentions, my guards began to nod and doze.

I watched them through my half-closed eyes, and a throb of hope bounded through wait until my jailers slept. But the re-membrance that I knew not how soon they their still unforgotten country.

Every kindness in their power was eagerin a moment. The next, with long leaps into their hiding place at his will.

like a panther, I was bounding over the lumbering soldiers; and by the time the shouts of my startled warders had aroused them, I had gamed the shelter of the bush.

With a roar like a sudden tempest, the Rangers rushed into the forest after me. But in the darkness of night, they could not trace me; moreover, fleeing from such a death, my speed exceeded theirs; and though for more than an hour I could distinguish voices, and hear them breaking the branches on my track, the sounds gradually died away, and before dawn, I was in the solitary wilderness.

Never before had the rising sun and all he looked on appeared so lovely in my eyes, and with a glad and grateful heart, I resumed my interrupted journey. Without further accident, I arrived at Fort George; and within a week, I had the happiness returning to Dunn's Fort with the relief it so greatly needed, by which we were enabled to hold the post until the end of the war, when it was ceded to the Americans.

FOR THE BOYS.

TAXIDERMY. In skinning a bird always keep the head of the bird toward you, lying on its back. Insert in its mouth a little cotton wool, to keep the blood back, (be sure to fill the mouth well,) then part the feathers carefully with your knife and index-finger from the breast bone down to the tail. Then make an incision through the skin commencing from the breast and ending at the vent, working the blade sideways to keep it from going too deep into theflesh. Now take the skin on one side of this incision in your finger and thumb and separate from body with aid of your knife blade. Now you will find the feathers have a tendency to the flesh and get gummy and sticky; to prevent this, apply a little of the soap with a small brush, or, with small birds, powdered alum rubbed well in, and then dust over with plaster of Paris. This will keep the skin nice and clean and stop the flow of blood. Separating the skin well down, you come to the thigh joint, (there are two joints, one at the back, which is not removed) the next is the thigh, which becomes prominent as you shove the leg up through the incision you made by taking hold of the foot; push it well through down to the third joint, and cut off with scissors and carefully remove all the fat and the flesh from the thigh Clean it carefully and soap the bone. thigh, wrap it with cotton batting and re-Place it; this finishes one side and leg. Now, turn your bird end for end and do the same with the other thigh. Separate well down to the tail and back of the tail. Keep the feathers well back with your fingers, that is the principal point in skinning. Scrape off all fat. Don't be disheartened because you spoil a few birds, that is nothing. Every one must have practice, and the com monest birds are the ones to practice on. You now come to the rump of the tail. Take the bird up by the tail between the finger and thumb, insert the point of the scissors between the rump and the skin of the tail, and sever it from the body. Brush the soap on, then take the body of the bird in your right hand and carefully work the skin off the he heard of more of this, he would fire the roof above their heads." And there was a birds you have to use a string and a hook back; this is in small birds. For large frown on his brow, and a fiendis hilash in his fastened to the ceiling to hang the bird to. eye, which convinced us his words were Skin away down the back, until you come to a projecting point on each side; these are He then gave orders to his men to close round the prisoner, and march to he d-quarters. Thus I was again in motion, but turning my back on my former route, with press the flight feathers down to the pinion joint. In large birds you can do this very easily, so, in them make an incision on the At the spot I gained, the bank was high and bare, and as I leaped from it, I felt there was little hope for one so breathless and excaptors, I was sure of a horrible an ignoall the flesh from it as on the thigh, do the inside of the wing from the front joint down same with the other wing, brush on the soap, then continue skinning down the neck until you come to the skull. After getting over the skull, you come to the ears; insert the knife blade well into the skull behind the ear and lift it out with your knife blade, then you come to the eyes, draw the skin very carefully over them, remove the eyelid from the eye and then gouge the eyes out. You have now removed all down to the beak. The skull is always retained in stuffing birds to to shorter service on these evenings. get their form. Now cut off the body at the back end of the skull, removing enough th whom my captors joined company.
With a shout of mingled execration and of the back of the skull to allow the brains suggest the erection of drinking to antains showed dark on its glancing surface. They searched, too, along the bank, beating the bush right and left, and lightened the labor by iouslar allowing a legion of the wild carousal which followed, in the brains with the knife-blade; in large birds in the wild carousal which followed, in the same a spoon clean out the shall will be a shall will be a spoon clean out the shall will be a shall be a shall will be a shall by jocular allusions to the reward I should have for the trouble I had given them.

numerable were the insults and coarse sarthe soap well in the inside, remove all fat casms showered on me, as I sat powerless and flesh, fill up with cotton wool, also fill the eye sockets with wool, then place the artificial eyes in this wool; then turn the skin twisted), then take hold of the beak and pull very carefully until the head comes

A SNAKE-BITE HEALER.

persevere, it will all come right.

Arrange them nicely and smoothly, hold it

The Wonderful Secret Possessed by Rantiste Ricquar.

Not long since a man known as Baptiste Ricwas said this power had been given him by a Canadian on his death bed in return for some important service, or by an act of to you gentlemen," etc. friendship. The conditions or circumstances attending the transfer of this curious knowledge never were learned with certainty, as its possessor was extremely jealous of it, guarding it with the greatest care, and revealed to no one until the hour of his death, when he imparted the gift to his eldest son, who can not be induced to speak of it in the

presence of strangers.

There is, however, an abundance of living evidence of Ricquar's power to cure the bites of snakes without the use of any kind my heart. As I lay, I had not been idle, of medicine, and of his apparent love or felbut with patient teeth had gnawed in two lowship with and control over all kinds of snakes. He would never consent to their being killed or injured, and it is said that he kept the largest and most venomous specimens about his place, and that they would

NEVER KNOWN TO FAIL.

Whenever a person within reach of old Baptiste was bitten, he was usually sent for to relieve the pains and render the posion innocuous. In this he was never known to fail. He simply placed his hands upon the wound and cautioned the sufferer not to take any medicine offered by others. It would insult him highly if asked how much he charged for his services, and would only accept something, whatever it might be, if offered as a present upon some other oc-

Being a devout Catholic, his gift brought him into bad repute with the parish priest, who, as the story goes, forbade him par-taking of the holy sarcament unless he foreswore the exercise of his black art. The Bishop, however, during one of his periodical visits to the parish, is said to have had an interview with the offending parishioner. He inquired of Ricquar how he came by the gift, and why he did not, at the command of the priest, abjure such uncanny practices. Ricquar responded that he had no compact with the evil one, nor was there anything wicked about it. How could there be any harm, he argued, in saving the life of a felcreature, when it was so easily done He had resolved many times to give up the use of ic, but when an excited neighbor came begging him to come and save a little child, or the wife who had been bitten, he could not refuse, even at the risk of losing favor in the Church. He was granted a dispensation by the Bishop to participate in the comforts of the communion without revealing his art at confession, and when he died he was honored with a perpetual resting place in St. Mary of Help Centetery.

TEMPERANCE ITEMS.

Revenue on Rum.

Our coffers fill with sordid gold, No matter what is bought or sold, We'll rob the many, bless the few All this, and more, for revenue.

I saw a voter, asked him why He'd cast his vote for men to die, And thus this deadly course pursue? He answered, "just for revenue."

The aldermen in council meet, To raise more fonds, repair the street. They've struck a plain, though fiendish vicw, We'll tax saloons for revenue.

See fathers recling o'er the grave, And mothers sinking—numble can save; But what care we we want our due, Though thousands die for revenue.

I saw the bride with rosy cheek, Heraction graceful, manners meek, Later behold the pallid hue— The flower was plucked for revenue.

The babe upon its mother's breast, Its innocence demands sweet rest, Here comes its collin, cheap, but new, The child was slain for revenue,

Oh, haffled hopes and falling tears, Millions of souls, millions of years; But what care we, a drunken crew We'll sell you alt for revenue.

And yet about 120,000 lives are sacrificed yearly by the drinking habits of society in

The 'elleville Women's Christian Temperance Union have commenced a series of p lar Temperance meetings, to be held in difcrent wards of the city. The incorporation of the Ontario W. C.

T. U. has been effected under the Act respecting benevolent and other societies, and was filed in the Provincial Registrar's office on the 15th of this month.

Miss Charlotte Gray, Organizing Secretary of the World's W. C. T. U., has finished her work in Belgium and gone to Switzerland, where the most liquor is consumed per capita of any country on the globe. A Mohammedan prince of Africa has

written a letter to the English authorities begging them not to send liquor to his country. It is safe to predict that his request will not be complied with. The W.C.T.U., of Peterboro', have pledged themselves not to purchase goods after

seven o'clock on Saturday evenings, with a view of assisting clerks and other employees The different Temperance organizations in

Temperance institutions as the best way in which to celebrate Queen Victoria's jubi

The prospects are that the enforcement of the Dow law will close up 400 saloons in this county, and these of the worst and most skin back with your finger, push the skull back through the neck with your thumb aloons and the payment of about \$250,000 a until you can see the beak, (don't get the year into the county treasury are certainly very gratifying and substantial results of the law, and will recommend it to some who were inclined to look upon it with disfavor. The results show the law to be a practical temperance measure, and will do more in that direction in one year in this county alone than the third party Prohibitionists up by the beak when smoothing, and then your bird is fit for mounting. Don't mind state since their party were organized. if your first bird doesn't look very much; Practical temperance is a great deal better than political prohibition .--- Clereland Leader.

George Washington was above the necessity of spelling correctly. But it is interest ing to observe that he defied orthography with the same calm courage with which he previous to his death he was credited with the remarkable gift of healing snake bites, and of being on familiar terms with the remarkable gift of healing snake bites, and of being on familiar terms with the remarkable gift of healing snake bites, and of being on familiar terms with the remarkable gift of healing snake bites, and of being on familiar terms with the remarkable gift of healing snake bites, and of healing venomous reptiles this country afforded. It ing that now Supreme Being, to whom alone can be attrebuted the signel successess of our arms, I cannot but express my gratitude

> "But, father," she protested as the good man ceased speaking, "you do not seem to understand the case." "Oh, but I do. You shall never marry William, even if he is my confidential clerk." "Father, you—"
> "That is all, Helen—say no more." Four days later she wrote him from Toronto, saying: "Will and I arrived here safely, and were married at once. We have \$60,000 of your money. Is all forgiven, or shall we settle down here?" He telegraphed his forgiveness.

> A party of Salvationists, which had gone to meet general Booth upon his arrival at Northampton on Sunday was mobbed by the populace. Missiles of all kinds were thrown by the mob, and the General himself was made the target for lumps of ice. The police were powerless.