



POETRY.

Believe Me.

Believe me, when I tell thee, darling,
That my heart is warm and true;
And the years have only brought up
Hope and love combined with you.

Bitter memory wakes the sorrow
That has slumbered many years;
But the daylight hour is nearing
When we meet in smiles and tears.

The world may scoff and turn coldly
On my track o'er land and sea,
Yet I'll bear the blow more bravely
If it lead to love and thee.

Lovely hours and fading pleasures
Fill the mind with days gone by,
When we kissed our little treasures,
Parting sadly; you and I.

Fate and fortune ever battling
In the ranks of bounding life,
Down to-day and up to-morrow
Is the lesson of the strife.

Loving hearts must never falter;
Hoping onward to the last;
Breathe the storm without a murmur;
God will help when all is past.

A Legend of 1776.

Night had set in deep, and in a small log hut, situated a few miles from Trenton N. J., sat five men, four of whom were seated at an old oaken table in the center of the room, engaged in playing cards, while they frequently moistened their throats with large draughts from an earthen jug that stood on the table.

They were heavily bearded, coarse-looking men and from their dress, which somewhat resembled the British uniform, they were evidently Tories. The other was a stout-built young man, clad in the Continental uniform. He sat in one corner of the room with his face buried in his hands.

'Tom,' said one of the Tories, rising from the table, and seating himself near the young prisoner—for such he evidently was—"Tom, you and I were schoolboys together and I love you yet. Now, why can't you give up your wild notions and join us? You're our prisoner, and if you don't we shall hand you over to the head quarters to-morrow, while, if you join us, your fortune is made; for with your bravery and talents you will distinguish yourself in the Royal army, and after the rebellion is crushed out your case shall be rewarded by knighthood in the army. Now there are two alternatives; which do you choose?"

'Neither,' said the young man, raising his head and looking the Tory straight in the eyes: 'I am now as you say, your prisoner, but when the clock strikes twelve I will disappear in a cloud of fire and smoke, and neither you nor your comrades, not even myself can prevent it. You may watch me as closely as you please, tie me hand and foot if you will, but a higher power than yours has ordained that I shall leave you at that time.'

'Poor fellow! His mind wanders,' said the Tory. 'He'll talk differently in the morning.' And he returned to his seat at the table, leaving the youth with his head again resting in his hands.

When the clock struck eleven he drew a pipe and some tobacco from his pocket, and asked the Tory leader if he had any objections to his smoking. 'None in the least,' he said adding with a laugh; 'that is if you'll promise not to disappear in a cloud of tobacco-smoke.'

The young man made no reply, but immediately filled his pipe, having done which he arose and commenced pacing the floor.

He took half a dozen turns up and down each side of the room, approaching nearer the table each time, when, having exhausted his pipe, he returned to his seat and refilled it.

He continued to smoke until the clock struck twelve, when he arose from his seat, and, slowly knocking the ashes out of his pipe, said:

'There, boys, it's twelve o'clock and I must leave you. Good-bye!'

Immediately all around the room were seen streaks of fire hissing and squirting, the cabin was filled with dense sulphurous smoke, midst which was a clap of thunder. The Tories sat in their chairs paralyzed with fright!

The smoke cleared away but the prisoner was nowhere to be seen. The table was overturned, the window was smashed to pieces, and one chair was lying on the ground outside the building.

The Tory leader after he recovered from his stupor gave one glance around the room and sprang out the window, followed by his comrades. They ran through the forest at the top of their speed, in the direction of the British encampment, leaving their muskets and other arms to the mercy of the flames, which had now begun to devour the cabin.

The next day two young men, dressed in the Continental uniform were seen standing near the ruins of the old cabin. One was our prisoner of the night previous. 'Let us hear all about it Tom,' said the other.

'Well,' said he, 'last evening, as I was passing this place, two Tories ran out of the cabin and took possession of me. Before I could make any resistance they took me in, and who do you suppose I saw as leader of their party, but John Barton, our old school-mate. He talked with me and tried to induce me to join them; but I told them that I could not do it; that at twelve o'clock that I was going to escape—disappear in a cloud of smoke. But he laughed at me and said I was out of my head. About eleven o'clock I asked him if I might smoke. He said he had no objections; so I filled my pipe and commenced walking the floor. I had about a pound of gun-powder in my pocket, and, as I walked, strewed it all over the floor. When the clock struck twelve I bade them good

bye, and told them I had to go. I then knocked the ashes out of my pipe, the powder ignited, and a dazzling flame of fire shot across, around, and all over the room, filling it with suffocating smoke. Before it cleared away I hurled a chair through the window, sprang out, and departed, leaving them to their own reflections. You know the rest.'

A Sample New Year Resolution.

Chapter I.—It was New Year's morning. He had been thinking deeply for a day or two, and there was a Spartan look on his face as he sat down to breakfast. He was unusually quiet though he said he never felt better in his life.

Chapter II.—Rising from the table he drew forth his tobacco box and said to his wife:

'Hannah, I'm going to quit the weed.'

'No.'

'Yes I am. I've been a slave to the disgusting habit for forty years, but now I am done with it! Come here Hannah!'

She followed him to the door, and he flung the box far out into the backyard.

Chapter III.—Four days have passed. Dried pumpkin, cloves, spices, gum and dried beef have been chewed in place of the accustomed quid. The family cat had been kicked out of doors; every pedler in town came to the door.

'But you will stick to your resolution, won't you?'

'I will or die!'

Chapter Last.—'Twas dark. Man sneaked around the house—on his knees on the grass—pawed around—fingers clutched an object—lid flew open—moved his right hand to his mouth—"Yum yum! But what a fool I was!'

MORAL.—Don't chew.—*Detroit Free Press.*

North Carolina

Was so called by the French in 1564 in honor of King Charles the Ninth of France, was first settled at Albemarle in 1650 by the English; chartered March 20, 1663, and June 30, 1665. Formed a constitution December 18, 1776, which amended in 1835. Ratified the Constitution of the United States, November 21, 1789. Area 50,704 square miles, population in 1870, 1,071,361, of which 391,650 were colored, and 1,241 Indians. North Carolina contains a portion of the Blue Ridge and the Black Mountains, the latter, in this State are the highest in the Appalachian system. The rivers are the Neuse, Cape Fear, Roanoke and Tar.

Raleigh, the capital, is a small city a few miles west of the Neuse river, near the border of the hill country.

Wilmington the largest city of North Carolina, is situated in the low coast lands. It is on the left hand of the Cape Fear River.

Wilmington is connected by railroad with large cities north of it. It has considerable commerce, and carries on a large amount of manufacturing by steam power.

Newbern, second seaport of the State, is situated on the right bank of Neuse

River, about 50 miles from its mouth.

North Carolina in the southeast and east is level and sandy and often marshy, interspersed with shallow lakes, especially between Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds. A chain of low islands line the whole coast. The State is rich in mineral treasures, especially gold, copper, iron and coal. The copper region of North Carolina is said to be unparalleled in richness. Coal—bituminous and anthracite—exists in large quantities, the former of the best quality. Iron occupies an important place in North Carolina, and its advantages for making bar iron of the best quality are very great. Marl is also abundant, and limestone and freestone exist in inexhaustible quantities. Magnetic iron ore, some silver, lead, manganese, gypsum and salt have also been found. North Carolina possesses exceedingly fine scenery. The Picturesque Catawba Falls are well known. Pilot mountain, so named for having served as a landmark for the Indians, rises in a cylindrical form. Warm Springs is a place of much resort. Paint Rock and a rock called the Chimneys is in the same locality. Ginger-cake Rock, in the form of an inverted pyramid, is a curious pile of stone 29 feet high, which supports a natural slab of stone, 32 feet long and 2 feet thick. Table Rock is another natural curiosity. The climate of North Carolina is hot and unpleasant in the low counties; the middle and Western sections, however, are temperate and healthy. Wheat is harvested in June and Indian corn in September. The soil possesses every variety, from the sands and marshes of the coast to the rich alluvials of the river bottoms. The marshes on being drained readily yield rice, cotton, tobacco and Indian corn. Much of the low sandy section is covered with forests of pitch pine that furnish large quantities of lumber, tar turpentine and rosin. Here cotton, rice and indigo do well, but on the high grounds wheat, Indian corn, hemp, tobacco, rye and oats are more successfully cultivated. The staple products of the State are Indian corn, tobacco and potatoes. Large quantities of wheat, rye, oats, Irish potatoes, cotton, wool, rice, fruits, butter, cheese, garden vegetables, hay, flax, grass seeds, beeswax, honey; and some barley, buckwheat, wine, hops, hemp, silk and maple sugar are produced. The upland country contains oaks of several species, besides hickory, Maple, ash and walnut; in the low country pine; and in the swamps also pine, cedar, cypress, with some maple with oak, poplar, and an undergrowth of vines, briars, &c. In the drier parts white and red oaks flourish. The manufactories are cotton woolen, turpentine distilleries, saw mills, tobacco and carriage factories. North Carolina exports lumber, pitch, tar and turpentine with rice, cotton, &c., on a smaller scale. The export of naval stores exceeds that of any other if not all the states in the Union—N. Y. South

To fatten fowls within ten or fourteen days, they ought to be placed in a wooden cage two feet above the soil the bottom of the cage to be strewn with wood ashes daily; the food should consist of rice, boiled in skimmed milk, adding a spoonful of carbonate of soda; the poultry ought to receive also, pure water twice a day, and, like the food, in earthen vessels. The chief object is to maintain great cleanliness, and to avoid the presence of any acid. The flesh of fowls thus fattened is highly praised.—*Southern Farmer.*