

## ORPHANS' FRIEND.

Wednesday, March 28, 1877.

### A TURNED-DOWN PAGE.

There's a turned-down page, as some writers say,  
In every human life—  
A hidden story of happier days,  
Of peace amid the strife.

A folded leaf that the world knows not—  
A love dream rudely crushed;  
The sight of a foe that is not forgot,  
Altho' the voice be hushed.

The far-distant sounds of a harp's soft strings,  
An echo on the air;  
The hidden page may be full of such things  
Of things that once were fair.

There is a hidden page in each life,  
and mine  
A story might unfold;  
But the end was sad or the dream di-  
vine—  
It better rests untold.

### A CHINESE CEMETERY.

It presented at first the appearance of any other Chinese city, with the exception of the dead silence, dearth of movement, and a sort of atmosphere which felt vapid and stagnant. There were the same narrow streets, paved with the cobble-stones, the same quaint little square houses with the elaborate screen in the door-way instead of a door, the little latticed Venetian window-frames whence the Chinese woman satisfies her curiosity as to what is going on in the outer world. But here no eyes peeped through, no fingers glided in and out from behind the screen, no pattering feet of bearer Coolies smoothed the cobble-stones, no cry of vender of fruit and fish broke the dull monotony. The streets intersected each other and ran in crooked zigzags, as most Chinese streets do. Here and there were patches of garden ground, planted with cadaverous sapless flowers, looking as though they had been struck with paralysis. A few dwarfed shrubs stood languidly up, seeming as though they could not put forth more than one leaf in a century. There was no hum of insects or flies, not even the ubiquitous mosquito. Not so much as a rat ran across the silent streets, which we traversed for some time, experiencing with terrible acuteness the irksome jar of our own footfall. My companion suggested that we should enter one of the houses; we therefore stepped behind one of the screens and found ourselves in an ordinary Chinese parlor or receiving-room, furnished with the usual black ebony chairs and teapots, with the quaint gaudy pictures lacking perspective, which one might fancy are hung in sheer perversity peculiarly instead of horizontally, commencing at the ceiling and extending to the floor in a narrow strip, the figures appearing on various stages as upon a ladder. At one end of the room was the altar, which adorns the principal apartments of every Chinese house, sustaining some ferocious-looking joss, which represents either saint or demigod. On either side were brass urns containing smouldering incense, and in the front cups of tea and samshoo. I do not know if the tea was hot. I did not taste it, for if it is ill to step into dead men's shoes, it must be worse to drink dead men's tea! In the centre of the room was a bulky article which looked like an ottoman, or divan, covered with a quilted silk counterpane or mastoyd, such as is used on Chinese beds, and it has passed for one of those uncomfortable articles of furniture. But it was hollow, and within it lay the inhabitant of the dwelling, sleeping his last long sleep; never more to rise; never more to sip his tea or samshoo, though it waited there prepared for him; never to sit on his ebony chairs; never to light any more joss-stick to his ancestors, but have them lit for him by his posterity. There were other chambers in the house similarly furnished except that the mastoyd was thrown back, and displayed an empty coffin, which

lay ready-lined with sandal-wood, its owner not being yet dead. The verandah was furnished with the usual green porcelain seats and vases, in which seemed to stagnate the bloodless flowers. We stole softly out into the street, chilled and painfully yet not mournfully impressed. We went into the next door; that house was "To Let Unfurnished." A third was rich in gilding and vermilion, and mirrors reflected and glittered through the rooms. The ebony and ivory furniture was most beautifully carved. The tea and samshoo cups were of exquisite egg-shell china; *objets de virtne* lay about on the altar emblazoned with real jewels. The bed was covered with a magnificent crimson velvet quilt, richly embroidered in gold and seed pearls, with a deep bullion fringe worth its weight in gold.—*Temple Bar.*

### AN INDIANA AEROLITE.

A very curious visitor from unknown regions is described by a farmer of Tippacanoe county in the *Lafayette (Ind.) Journal*: "Mention was made short time since of the fall of a wonderful aerolite, in the lower part of this country. Yesterday we met Mr. Harter, who discovered it upon his farm, near Romney. The fragments in all, it is supposed, will amount to about a thousand pounds in weight, and some features are presented which will be of great interest to scientific men. The aerolites heretofore found are of a solid and metallic nature, having evidently struck the earth as compact bodies. This one is entirely different. From the traces it is easily determined that the vast descending body came hurling through the air in one glowing, molten mass, and that at the moment of its impingement it was in liquid state. The fragments are honeycombed, like a cinder, and vary greatly in their weight. It is further evident that the globe was hollow, from the smoothness of the concave parts. The outside presents the appearance of a soft body that has struck upon solid particles, as the indentation of grass blades, straw and sticks are plainly discernable. One of the fragments had fallen on a large stick of wood, and conformed to it exactly. The very texture of the wood can be seen. Further than this, all around the spot where the main body fell were found numerous little balls of the material varying from a shot to an ordinary sized marble. They were perfect spheres, and can be accounted for upon no other hypothesis than that the rapid revolution of the liquid mass in its descent threw off these particles by centrifugal force. Parts of the material have been subjected to intense heat without the least effect being produced, and they show unquestionable evidence of igneous action. A box of these fragments will be shipped to the Smithsonian Institute, and the remainder are intended for the Purdue Agricultural College."—*Selected.*

### NEWFOUNDLAND.

The island of Newfoundland is curiously favored, inasmuch that as it is not infested with reptiles. Captain Chearnley writes: "In Newfoundland there is not a snake, toad, frog, or reptile of any sort. There is not a squirrel on the island, nor porcupine, moose, or mink; whereas, with the exception of the porcupine, wanting in Cape Breton, and Nova Scotia, all these creatures are found in the neighboring provinces. The Arctic hare is found in Newfoundland, but in neither Cape Breton nor Nova Scotia." Captain Hardy calls attention to

other deficiencies. He visited Newfoundland at midsummer, and could not help remarking that fireflies were not to be seen there; while in Nova Scotia they swarm by thousands, their scintillations adding beauty to the pall of a quiet night. The island is full of bogs and swamps, which render it difficult to account for the total absence of reptiles.—*Exchange.*

### HAWAIIAN WOMEN.

In the girls' schools you will see an occasional pretty face, but fewer than I expected to see; and to my notion the Hawaiian girl is rarely attractive. Among the middle-aged women, you often meet with fine heads and large expressive features. The women have not unfrequently a majesty of carriage and a tragic intensity of features and expression which are quite remarkable. Their loose dress gives grace as well as dignity to their movements; and whosoever invented it for them deserves more credit than he has received. It is a little startling at first to see women walking about in what, to our perverted tastes, looks like calico or black night-gowns; but the dress grows on you as you become accustomed to it. It lends itself readily to bright ornamentation; it is eminently fitted for the climate; and a stately Hawaiian dame, marching through the streets, in black *holaku*—as the dress is called—with a long necklace, or *le*, of bright scarlet, or brilliant yellow flowers, bare and untrammelled feet, and flowing hair, compares very favorably with a high-heeled, wasp-wasted, absurdly bonneted, fashionable white lady.—*Harper's Magazine.*

Acustom yourself to overcome and master things of difficulty; for if you observe, the left hand for want of practice is insignificant and not adapted to general business, yet it holds the bridle better than the right, from constant use.—*PLINY.*

### HOW CHILDREN ARE ADMITTED.

Very often the Superintendent hunts up poor and promising orphans and informs them of the advantages offered at the Orphan Houses, and induces them to return with him. Generally it is best that he should see them before they start. When this is impracticable, a formal application should be made by some friend. Here is one in proper form:

*Edenton, N. C., }  
June 2d, 1876. }*  
*This is to certify that Susan N. Bradshaw is an orphan, without estate, sound in body and mind, and ten years of age. Her father died in 1873; her mother in 1867. I being her Aunt, hereby make application for her admission into the Asylum at Oxford. I also relinquish and convey to the officers of the Asylum the management and control of the said orphan for four years, in order that she may be trained and educated according to the regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. Martha Scott.*

*Approved by  
John Thompson, W. M.  
of Unanimity Lodge, No. 7.*

The application should be sent to the Superintendent and he will either go for the children, or provide for their transportation. In no case should a community take up a collection to send a man with the children, nor send the children before the Superintendent has been consulted.

### FORM OF APPLICATION FOR THE ADMISSION OF HALF ORPHANS.

..... N. C., }  
..... 1877. }

*This is to certify that.....  
..... is a half orphan,  
..... sound in body and mind, and without any estate. H.... father died in 18.... I being.... mother, hereby make application for h.... admission to the Orphan Asylum at Oxford, and I also relinquish and convey to the officers thereof the entire management and control of said orphan till the.... day of.....  
....., (that being the day on which.... will be fourteen years of age,) in order that.... may be trained and educated according to the regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. I also promise not to annoy the Orphan Asylum, and not to encourage the said orphan to leave without the approval of the Superintendent.*

*Approved by.....  
W. M. of.....*

### FORM OF APPLICATION FOR THE ADMISSION OF ORPHANS.

..... N. C., ..... 1877.

*This is to certify that.....  
..... is an orphan, sound in body and mind, and without estate. H.... father died in 18...., h.... mother died in 18.... I, being h...., hereby make application for h.... admission into the Orphan Asylum at Oxford, and I also relinquish and convey to the officers thereof, the entire management and control of said orphan till the.... day of.....  
18.... (that being the day on which.... will be fourteen years of age,) in order that.... may be trained and educated according to the regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.*

*Approved by.....  
W. M. of..... Lodge,*

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