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The Alamance Gleaner,

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Poetrn.

The Light of Stars.

The light is come, but not too soon ; And sinking silently, All stendy, the little moon Drops down behind the sky.

There is no light in earth or heaven But the cold light of stars : And the first watch of night is given To the red planet Mars.

Is it the tender stars of love? The star of love and dreams? Oh, no ! from that blue tent above A here's armor gleams.

And earnest thoughts within me rise, When I behold afar, Suspended in the evening skies, The shield of that red star.

O siar of strength I see thee stand And smile upon my pain; Thou beckonest with thy mailed hand, And I am strong again.

Within my breast there is no light. But the cold light of stars; I give she first watch of the night To the red planet Mars. The star of the unconquered will, He rises in my breast,

Screne, and resolute, and still, And calm, and self-possessed And thou, too, whosoe'er thou art, That readest this brief psalm, As one by one thy hopes depart, Be resolute and calm.

O fear not in a world like this, And thou shalt know ere long, Know how sublime a thing it is To suffer and be strong.

-Longfellow

A DUNCE'S WORK.

me think so.'

there in the village postoffice waiting for to be made of the boy. the mail. He had grown prosperous by diut of hard work and good judgment, one, and the gardens especially suffered and his neighbors were accustomed to for water. When people began to comask for and to respect his opinions.

futile and nugatory by reason of his in-Latin verb.'

That means, in plain English, that he don't it?' asked Riley.

'Yes, that is what I mean,' replied the schoolmaster, with something like a shudder at old Riley's English. 'But I will make an honorable exception in the matter of mathematics. Be seems inples.'

'Yes,' drawled old Riley; 'one 'o your boys tole me Hamp could figure out how long it 'ud take for cistern to get full ef season. they was three pipes 'o different sizes a runnin' into it, an' two others 'o still different sizes a runnin' ont,'

'Yes, he is expert in the practical applications of arithmetic; and yet in arithmetic his standing is not good, because he seems incapable of mastering the exact terms of the formulæ and rules.'

'Well, now, look here,' said old Riley, boy ain't got no grip on your words an' nunecessarily offensive, but you an' all words an' kin make speeches, but they ening him. arter another fer all the blacksmiths an' wheelrights an' carpenters hereabout to set the thing up, an' I'm blest ef one on 'em could make ont which end o' the thing was foremost. Not one on 'em could put any two pieces together. That 'ere bey hung around all the time, with his forred creased up like, an' finally he it, but afor noon that very day, that himself before Riley Vanghn. there reaper was a reapin' wheat like a to the thing. Now I say et he's a dunce, the sooner most people in these parts lose their senses an' gets to be dunces, the better twill be for all concerned. And stone without teams.

with that old Riley stalked indignantly It it will-. Well, let me hear what out of the postoffice.

Notwithstanding all that old Riley while speaking.

could say, however, public opinion was against Hamp See. It was certain that he was dull at his lessons. He could not Riley, 'I'ye stood up fer you, an' said o' improved machinery in it; an' I'm akeep up with Mr. Penruddock's classes, you wan't to dunce when everybody goin' to send my pardner, John Hamps and instead of studying his Latin verbs, he was perpetually interrupting the school by asking Mr. Penruddock to explain things like thunder and lightning and the presence of shells in rocks on the mountain, and the carious ways plants have of taking care of themselves-things which had no relation to the work of the school. It was agreed that Riley Vaughn could not know anything about educas tion, because be was not himself educated. It was even said-and this came to Riley's ears-that he was prejudiced against education. Even Hamp's mother was discouraged. Hamp was always 'pottering,' she said, instead or attending

to his books.

'Why,' she said, 'he is been fooling with a spring on the hill back of the house the whole season through. He's laid pipes to bring the water down here, and now he's turned the whole house into a mill. Then she would show her visitor what Hamp had done. He had constructed an ingenious water-wheel with which to make the most of the power afforded by the spring, and had set it to a variety of tasks. A stretch of line shafting passed under the floor of the house, and, bands were passed through the floor to the churn and the sewingmachine, and even the sausage chopper could be attached at will. 'I don't deny that it's handy, and saves work, said 'Hamp See, a dunce! Well, maybe his mother. 'And now he's made a so; but arter I've seed, it 'ud take a sort of a fan in the dining-room, and has smarter schoolmaster than you to make set that going, too, so that it keeps the flies off the table. If we had a baby in It was old Riley Vaughn who spoke, the house, I believe he'd make the water and although old Riley had no educa- rock the cradle. But it's discouraging tion, his hard sense and sound judgment about his studies. Mr. Penruddock is in were respected by all the men who sat despair, and says he don't know what is

The summer proved to be a very dry plain, Hamp had an idea. He always 'I did not say precisely that; Mr. had an idea when an emergency arose. Vaughu,' replied Mr. Penruddock, the He went into his mother's garden and now. schoolmaster. 'I only said my best ef- worked all day, digging a trench down forts to educate the boy were rendered the middle, and making little trenches at right angles to the main one, so that explicable inability to grasp and retain each bed was surrounded by them, and so simple a thing as the accidence of the the larger beds crossed as well. He was main trench, so that the waste water, after turning the wheel, was carried into the garden and emptied into the trench. Little by little the main trench filled; then the water trickled into the smaller trenches, and as the spring from which stinctively to grasp arithmetical princi- it came was a never-failing one, the garden was supplied with water throughout the dry, hot summer, and such a garden nobody in that region had seen that

> People said that Hamp See was certainly a handy sort of a boy; but they were sure to add, 'it's a pity he is so dull.

One day old Riley Vaughn was offering extravagant prices for horse, mule, or ox teams to haul stone. He had taken a contract to supply from his quarry the stone for the railroad bridge over Bush rising and striking the counter with his run, and now the time for delivery was big fist; 'it jest comes to this here, the near at hand, and no teams could be had, All the horses were at work on the crops, things; but he's got a good grip on idees and it began to appear that old Riley and principles, an' it's my belief that's must either lose money on the contract the inside o' sense. I don't want to be by hiring horses and mules and teamsters at ruinous prices, or forteit the conschoolmasters like you ought to teach tract itself. He tried in every direction parrots. They don't want no idees; they to get mules and wagons, offering twice just want the words, an' that's your no- the usual wages, but still he could get tion o' learnin.' That's the trouble o' very few. He was in real trouble, with this here country down here; men learn a loss of several thousand dollars threat-

can't do nothin.' Now I've seed that One day Hamp, who knew what boy Hamp See do what nary a man in trouble Biley was in, went down to the this county could do. I bought the fuet | creek, and, cutting several twigs, began reapin' machine as was ever seed in these setting them up at a distance from each parts, an' when it came it was all to other, and sighting from one to the pieces, an' packed in boxes. I sent one other. The few teamsters who were at work watched him curiously, but could not make out what he was doing. He went up the creek with his sticks, moving one of them at a time, and always carefully sighting from one to another, or rather from one over another to a third. In this way he worked up to the quarry, which was immediately on the says to me, says he, 'Mr. Vaughn, let creek, nearly a mile above the point me try. 'Well try,' says I; 'an' et you where the bridge was to be built. When git her together, I've got a five dollar he had done, he walked back, examining bill fer you. ' Maybe you wou't believe the banks as he went; then he presented

'Mr. Vaughn,' he said, 'I've an idea dozen hands. The boy jest seed right in- that will help you out of your difficulty. 'Will it hire teams to haul stone?" asked Riley.

'No; but it will enable you to haul

eled up from the quarry and there's only outen your interest in the comin' factory. body would think, it's my notion to big factories an' things.4-

fast as they can load them.' 'How do you know there's only two foot fall? asked old Riley, eagerly.

'I've tevled it,' said Hamp. 'That is, you figgered it out with them 'Yes.

'Are you sure you've got the right answer? asked the old man, wild with

'Perfectly sure. You see, it's simple. plant my sticks-

'Never mind about how you do it; I can't understand that ef you explain it; but look me in the eyes boy. This thing means thousands of dollars to Riley Vaughn of you've got your answer right. I kin understand that much; an' ef you've worked out this big sum right you're a dunce jest 'kase you don't take order of the seasons, the weather, the kindly to old Penruddock's chatterin' bend to the wind. He represents conserved learning lill do it, or my name sort of learning. I'll do it, or my name ain't Riley Vaughu, an' that's what I've | small gains, been called for nigh unto fifty-five years

while Hamp looked on, and simply made a suggestion for simplifying the work. very careful to keep all these trenches on The dam was finished at three o'clock in one level. When he had finished, he the atternoon, and at six o'clock the ain't got no grip on what you teach him, | laid a drain from his water wheel to the | water had risen two feet six inches, while the back water had passed the

'There!' said Hamp 'that proves my work. The water is level, of course, as far as the back water shows itself, and we have six inches of back water at the quarry and two feet six inches at the dam; so the fall is two feet.

'It looks so,' said Riley, who was also eagerly watching the rise of the water. The workmen had gone home, all of them convinced that this attempt to back the water a mile up the creek was the wildest toolishness; but old Riley and Hamp waited and watched.

'It dosen't rise so fast now,' said Rilev. 'That's because it has a larger surface; but it still rises, and the surface won't increase much more now, as there's a steep place just above the quarry, and it can't back any further up.

The two waited and watched. Midnight came, and the measurement showed three feet two inches depth at the dam. Still they waited and watched. At six o'clock in the morning the depth was four feet two inches. Then lilley sent a boy to his house with orders to bring 'a big breakfast for two.' At seven o'clock the breakfast arrived, and the measurement showed four feet three inches and a-halt,

'It's a-risin' faster again,' said Riley. 'Yes; the level is climbing straight up the bluff banks now, and not spreading out as it rises,' said Hamp.

At nine o'clock the depth was four feet eight and a half inches, and the men at the quarry had a rait ready, and were beginning to load it. Ten o'cleck brought four feet eleven inches of water, and at noon there were five feet and four laches, 'I've missed it a little,' said Hamp. 'I

said the water would run over the dam by noon, and it still has eight inches to rise before doing that. 'Well, that sort of a miss don't count,'

sald Riley. 'You'ce worked the sum out right, anyhow, au' the water's deep enough for raftin', an' still a-risin'. 1(')] go over the dam in two or three hours more, an' I'll do what I said: I'll choke any man 'at says John Hamden See's a dunce or anything like it. An' that ain't all,' said the old man rising and striking his fist in the palm of his hand, 'They've been a-sayin' that ole Ritey Vaughn didn't vally education; now I'll show 'em. I'm a goin' to make this it is, said Riley, changing his purpose dam a permanent institute. I'm a goin' dam a permaneut institute. I'm a goin' money for a rainy day.'-Poor Man's to build Vaughn & See's foundry an' Wife.

Raft the stones down, said Hamp. | agricultooral impliment factory right 'Now lock a-here, Hamp See,' said old down the creek there, an' put a big lot else said you was; but this here looks as den See, off next week to get the rest of of they was right an' I was wrong. How his education where they sell the sort of in natur' kin I raft stone down a creek education as is good for him-not a lot that ain't got more'n six inches o' water o' words, but principles and facts. You in it, a-bubblin' around the stones of the tell your mother you're a-goin' to New York right away , boy, an' 'at ole Riley 'Well, you see,' said Hamp, 'I've lev- Vaughn's a-goin' to foot all the bills two feet fall, or a little less, and the You'll study all sorts of figgering work banks are nowhere less than five feet an machine principles, in the big school high; and so, as there's a good deal more in New York what's called the school water running down in a day than any- o' mines, and then you'll go to all the

build a temporary dam just below the This scheme was carried out. Hamp bridge-you've enough timber and plank | spent three years in study, and returned here to do it with two hours' work of an accompilshed mechanical engineer. your men-building it, say, six feet high, He went into the factory as old Riley! there where the banks are closest togeth- partner, and his work has been to imer. Before noon to-morrow the water prove machinery and processes. The will rise to the top of the dam, and run. firm own many patents now on things of When it does, you'll have six feet of his invention, and the factory is the water here and four feet at the quarry, center of a prosperous region, in which and your men can push raits down as Hampden See is an especially respected citizen.

Emerson's Tribute to the Farmer.

The following worthy tribute to the farmer is from the pen of Ralf Waldo Emerson:

The glory of the farmer is that in the division of labor it is his part to create; all trade rests at last on his primitive activity. He stands close to nature; he obtains from the earth the bread and meat; the tood which was not be causes to be.

The first farmer was the first man, and all historic nobility rests on possession and use of land. The farmer's office is precise and important, but you must not try to paint him in rose colors. You cannot make pretty compliments to fate and gravitation, whose minister he is. He represents the necessities. It is beauty of the great economy of the world that for me, I'll choke the next man that says makes his comeliness. He bends to the tionnous bard labor, year after year, and

He takes the pace of seasons, plants and chemistry. Nature never hurries; Old Riley was vividly excited, He called all his men to the place selected, and set them at work building the dam, He must wait for his crops to grow. His entertainments, his liberties and

his spending must be on a farmer's scale -not a merchant's. It were as false for farmers to use a wholesale and massy expense as for states to use minute

He has great trusts confided to him. In the great household of nature the farmer stands at the door of the breadroom, and weighs each lost. It is for bim to say if men shall marry or not. Early marriages and the number of births are indissolubly connected with an abundance of food. The larmer is a hoarded capital of health, as the farm is of wealth, and it is from him that the health and power, moral and intellect, of the cities come. The city is always recruited from the country. The men in cities, who are centers of energy, the driving-wheel of trade, and the women of beauty and genius,-are the children and grands children of the farmer, and are spreading the energies which their fathers' bardy silent lite accumulated in frosty furrows.

He is a continuous benefactor. He who digs a well, constructs a stone foundation, plants an orchard, builds a durable house, reclaims a swamp, or so much as puts a stone seat by the way-side, makes the land so far lovely and desirable, makes a fortune which he cannot carry away with him, but which is useful to his country long afterwards. Who are the farmer's servants? Geol-

ogy and chemistry, the quarry of the air, the water of the brook, the lightning of the cloud, the casting of the worms, the plow of the frost. Long before he was born the sun of ages decomposed the rocks, mellowed his land, soaked it with light and heat, covered it with vegetable film, then with forests, and accumulated the sphagnum whose decays made the peat of his medow.

What am 1?

I married a widow who had a grown up daughter. My father visited our house often, and fell in love with her and married her. So my father became my son-in-law, and my step-daughter my mother, being my father's wife. Some time after my wife had a son; be was my father's brother-in-law and my uncle, for he was the brother of step-mother. My father's wife, my step-daughter, also had a son. He was, of course, my brother, and in the meantime my grandchild also, for he was the son of my daughter. My wife was my grandmother, because she was my mether's mother. I was my wife's bushand and grandchild at the same time; and, as the husband of a person's grandmother is bis grandfather, I was, and, alas, still am, my own grandfather!

MONEY FOR A RAINY DAY,- For six years my daughter was sick from kidney and other disorders. We had used up our savings on doctors, when our dominie advised us to try Parker's Ginger Tonic. Four bottles effected a cure, and as a dollar's worth has kept our family well over a year, we have been able to lay by



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