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Poetry.

Lost.

Lost! Lost! Lost! A thousand jewels rare; A thousand gems of priceless cost,

The stream of time rolls on Along its misty shore, And waits a load of pleasure gone

SELECTED STORY.

Killed By A Bird.

It is an old superstition among sailors that the albatross is a kind of spirit of the air that causes the gentle breeze

One was known to follow a ship, which was sailing two hundred miles a day, for forty-eight hours, and, from its irregular flight, it must have passed

The following thrilling account of death from an attack by the albatross is related by an English writer of travel and adventure.

The crew had just finished breakfast, and the captain came on deck, when the mate called a couple of men

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farther out to seize the block, which hung at the extreme end of the spar,

The young fellow started as if struck by a bullet, lost his balance, and, as he fell, caught the rope.

The fearful cry burst simultaneously from a dozen throats, and all sprang to ropes to throw to their comrades.

His heart-rending cry rose, and a flock of Cape doves collected in a second, with hurriedly flapping wings,

"It is impossible to lower the boat," said the captain, in despair; "the men couldn't get into it before it would be dashed to pieces."

The mate shook his head sadly, though not removing his eyes from the poor wretch, and merely added in a low voice:

"It would be madness," Tom merely nodded his head and said to himself:

The desperate cry of the swimmer reached the ear in weak accents. He knew that he had no human aid to expect, but the love of life would not

It was a yell that startled the men as if a shot had been fired among them, and even the albatrosses were

"Help! Help!" A sharp cry from the gulls responded to this time. It was the battle-cry of the hungry birds,

The birds with the albatrosses at their head, now formed a dense mass on the water, so that nothing could be seen beneath them.

The crew slowly came down and went forward, while the ship struggled against the rebellious sea which had

At last the albatrosses arose from the wave and followed the ship in their heavy flight. And all the world around seemed painfully careless on the horrible deed so lately enacted.

There are souls which fall from heaven like fire; but ere the pure and fresh buds can open they are trdden in the dust of the earth and its soiled and crushed under the foul tread of some brutal hoof.

Seward and Napoleon.

AN UNWRITTEN CHAPTER.

We extract the following from the San Francisco "Bulletin" of January 11th. The story purports to have been told by Mr. Seward to a few personal friends at a dinner party, among whom was the writer in the San Francisco paper.

"It was," said Mr. Seward, "in the darkest days of the rebellion. Disaster upon disaster had befallen the Union armies, Treason was active and bold-fronted at Washington, in the North and in the West. Rebel emissaries and their allies were plotting against us

"In this desperate emergency I received an autograph letter from the Emperor of the French. It was marked 'private and confidential.' It began with expressions of personal regard for myself, and pain at the spectacle of the great republic in the throes of dissolution.

"I answered Napoleon's insulting letter immediately. I said: 'This is a family quarrel. We propose to settle it in our own way and in our own time. We do not wish the assistance of outsiders; we will not brook interference. The American Union is to be preserved. It shall be preserved if it takes twenty years to do it. The war is hardly commenced yet; the people are just beginning to warm to the work. We wish to be on good terms with our neighbors—we wish especially to be on good terms with France, our ancient friend and ally. But you must keep hands off. If you presume to interfere, we will show you what a free people battling for national existence are capable of.'

"Hitherto we have conducted the war humanely, in accordance with the codes that govern the most Christian States. Interference on your part will be the signal for a war of conquest and destruction. We will free the negroes; we will put arms in their hands, and send them forth to ravage and plunder. We will make the South a waste and a desolation. Raise a hand against us and horrors worse than those of San Domingo will be seen from one end of the South to the other."

"The letter was sent by the first steamer. The same day I telegraphed to Thurlow Weed, Archbishop Hughes and Bishop Simpson to meet me at the Astor House the morning following. That evening I left for New York, and explained to those eminent gentlemen the objects of the conference and the cause. I told them that they must at once go to Europe to labor unofficially with the governments and ruling classes in England and on the continent, to represent the wickedness, danger and folly of foreign interference. In less than a week they were on their journey, reached Europe at a most opportune moment—(Nason and Slidell had just been seized—England was in a white heat of rage)—and did much toward convincing Europe that the proper and the only thing to do was to leave us alone. And the mission cost the government less than seven thousand dollars."

"Of the above the 'Lynchburg News' says: The above ought to be printed, put in a frame, and hung up in every Southern parlor, nursery and school room. We believe it to be true. It so happens

The Broken-Hearted.

BY GEORGE D. PRENTICE.

About ten years ago, I took up my residence for a few weeks in a country village in a eastern part of New England. Soon after my arrival, I became acquainted with a young lady, apparently about 17 years of age. She had lost the idol of her heart's purest love, and the shadows of deep and holy memories were resting like the wing of death upon her brow.

I first met her in the presence of the mirthful. She was, indeed, a creature to be admired; her brow was garlanded by the young year's sweetest flowers, and her sunny tresses were hanging beautifully and low upon her bosom; and she moved through the crowd with such a stately and graceful grace, that the bewildered gaze looked almost to see her fade away into the air, like the creation of a pleasant dream. She seemed cheerful, and even gay; yet I saw that her gaiety was but the mockery of her feelings. She smiled, but there was something in her which told me that her mournful beauty was but the bright reflection of a tear; and her eyelids at times pressed heavily down, as struggling to repress the tide of agony that was bursting up from her heart's secret urn.

The close of her life was as calm as the falling of a quiet stream; gentle as the sinking of the breeze, that lingers for a time round a bed of withered roses, and then dies from very sweetness.

It cannot be that earth is man's only abiding place. It cannot be that our life is a bubble cast up by the ocean of eternity, to float a moment upon its surface, and then sink into nothingness and darkness forever. Else, why is it that the high and glorious aspirations which leap like angels from the temple of our hearts are forever wandering abroad, unsatisfied? Why is it that the rainbow and cloud come over us with a beauty that is not of earth, and then pass off and leave us to muse on their faded loveliness. Why is it that the stars which hold their festival around the midnight throne, are set above the grasp of our limited faculties, forever mocking us with their unapproachable glory? And finally, why is it that bright forms of human beauty are presented to the view, and then taken from us, leaving the thousand streams of the affections to flow back in Alpine torrents upon our hearts?

We are born for a higher destiny than that of earth. There is a realm where the rainbow never fades; where the stars will be spread out before us like the island that slumber on the ocean and where the beautiful beings that here pass before us like visions, will stay in our presence forever.

Drinking Water. Drinking wine is a habit; so is drinking spirits; and, coffee and water. The last is thought a necessity; but to drink much is a habit. Some people drink little, not because their constitutions require less than others; it is their habit. These people never perceive so much as those who drink more. The more that is drunk the more water pushes away from the system would suffer. It is the strain affects it. The skin, the kidneys, bowels, lungs, are all drawn open. The result is, as may be naturally expected, exhaustion. For this reason the man who drinks much water, particularly during

the summer and in the hottest weather, is less able to endure fatigue. The water is no benefit to him—that is, the excess. It must pass away, and this requires an effort of the system, which is the sweating process. Had he not used the excess of water he would not have perspired so; it would not have been there for the system to expel. It is a habit to drink water so much; a false thirst is created. We should drink only what is needed. The habit of drinking more will soon be overcome, and the person will feel much stronger and more capable of bearing fatigue. In winter little fluid is wanted beyond what our food furnishes; in summer some more, but not much.

Boiled Corn in the Ear for Food.

An experienced man in Illinois says that he finds much economy in boiling corn in the ear, and so feeding it to his hogs. He supposes that the alkalies contained in the cob act upon the starchy covering of the grain and soften it, while they also loosen the attachment of the kernel to the cob. Certainly the animals prefer to have the corn in this fashion. They fatten faster and keep in finer condition.

If the devil ever laughs, it must be at hypocrites; they are the greatest dupes he has, they serve him better than any others, and receive no wages; nay, what is still more extraordinary, they submit to greater mortifications to go to hell, than the sincerest Christians do, to go to heaven.

In childhood be modest, in youth temperate, in manhood just, in old age prudent.

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Mark twain has this advice for young men with literary aspirations, 'Write without pay until somebody offers pay, if nobody offers pay within three years, the candidate may look upon this circumstance with the most implicit confidence as the sign that saving wood is what he was intended for.'

Important Dates.

The following will refresh the minds of our readers as to the dates of the most important inventions, discoveries and improvements, the advantages of which we now enjoy: Spinning wheel invented 1330. Paper first made of rags 1417. Muskets invented and first used in England in 1422. Pumps invented 1425. Printing invented by Faust 1441. Engraving on wood invented 1490. Post-offices established in England 1464. Almanacs first published 1441. Printing introduced into England by Caxton 1474. Violins invented 1477. Roses first planted in England 1505. Hatchets first made in 1504. Punctuation first used in literature 1520. Before this time words and sentences were re-put together like this.

"I resort to wine to stimulate my wit," said a young spendthrift to an old one.

"Ah," replied the veteran, "that is the way I began; but now I have to resort to my wit to get my wine."

A SAD MISTAKE.—A young man once picked up a gold coin that was lying in the road. Always afterward as he walked along, he kept his eyes on the ground, hoping to find another. And in the course of a long life he did pick up, at different times, a goodly number of coins, both gold and silver. But all these years that he was looking for them he saw not that the heavens were bright above him. He never let his eyes turn away from the silt and mud in which he sought his treasure; and when he died—a rich old man, he only knew this fair earth as a dirty road in which to pick up money.

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