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# Courier.

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART.

VOL.

POETRY.

The Song of the Shirt.

With fingers weary and worn,

Stitch ! stitch ! stitch !

Work! work! work!

It's oh ! to be a slave

"Work-work-work!

Work-work-work!

And work-work-work!

With eyelids heavy and red,

A woman sat, in unwomanly rags,

Plying her needle and thread-

In poverty, hunger, and dirt;

And still with a voice of dolorous pi ch

She sang the "song of the shirt !"

While the cock is crowing alou!

Along with the barbarous Turk,

It this is Christian work !

Seam, and gusset, and band,

Band, and gusset, and seam,

Oh! men with sisters dear!

Till over the buttons I tall as!eep.

And sew them on in my dream !

Oh! men with muthers and wives

Sewing at once, with a double thread,

It is not linen you're wearing out.

But human creatures' lives!

In poverty, hunger, and dirt,

A shroud as well as a shirt!

But why do I talk of death,

I hardly tear his terrible shape,

Because of the fast I keep:

O God! that bread should be so dear.

And what sre its wages? A bed of straw.

A shattered roof-and this naked floor.

And a wall so blank my shadow I thank

And flesh and blood so cheap !

A crust of bread-and rags :

A table-a broken cha'r-

For sometimes falling there !

Fr m weary chime to chime ;

As pris ners work, for crime!

S-am, and gusset, and band

As well as the weary hand!

In the dull December light ;

The brooding swallows cling,

As if to show me their sunny backs,

And twit me with the Spring.

Oh! but to breathe the breath

With the sky above my head,

To feel as I used to feel,

Before I knew the woes of want.

Oh! but for one short hour!

A respite, however brief!

But only time for grief!

But in their bring bed

Sritch -stitch - stirch !

wants a kiss :

say Yes;

away !

For only one short hour

Till the heart 18 sick and the brain

When the a eather is warm and bright

Of the cowslip and primrose sweet

And the grass beneath my feet :

And the walk that costs a meal !

No ble-sed leisure for love or hop .

A little weeping would case my hear

My tears must stop for every frop

Hinders needle and thr ad !'

With fingers weary and worn,

With eyelids heavy and red,

A woman sat, in unwomanly rage,

Plying her needle and thread;

In poverty hunger, and dirt;

And still with a voice of dolorous pite

Would that its tone could reach the ric

She sung this "Song of the Shirt!"

Female Courtship

Two or three looks when your swain

Two or three Noes when he bids you

Two . r three smiles when you u t r th

Two or three frowns if he offers to go;

Two or three speeches like 'Ah, go

Two or three times you must hold him

Band, and gusset, and seam,

be numbed.

Work-work-work,

And work-work-work !

While underneath the eaves

It seems so like my own-

It seems so like my own,

" Work-work-work!

" Work-work-work!

Work - work | work !

My labor ne er flags ;

That phantom of grisly bone :

Stitch-stitch-stitch !

Till the brain begins to swim

Till the eyes ore beavy and dim!

Till the stars shine through the roof!

Where woman has never a soul to save.

LOUISBURG, N. C., APRIL, 3, 1874.

Two or three letters when vows are

Two or three quarrels before you have done : Two or three meetings to walk here and there.

begun,

Two or three nights to the court-Louse Two or three dances to make you jocose,

Two or three hours in a corner sit close; Two or three starts when he bids you elope,

Two or three glances that intimate hope, Two or three pauses before you are won. Two or three faintings to let him press

Two or three sighs when you've wasted the tears : Two or three hems when the chaplain

appears; Two or three squeezes when the hand's given away,

Two or tiree coughs when you've come to obey; Two or three curtaies when marriage is

I'wo or three honeys discovering your

Two or three steps to the bridal home

I'wo or teret kisses though ask'd for but one; Two or three lasses may have by these

I'wo or three husbands though hard is the times.

# SELECTIONS.

### A Waiting Mother.

Of the terrible disaster which happened on the first of April, 1873, I suppose you have all heard: how a great steamer struck at night on the rocks of Halifax, and carried down to a watery burial some six hundred people. Many bodies have been found and identified, but many more will never be seen again until the sea gives up its

Among the numbers marked as 'missing' is one widow's son, who lives in Detroit. She clings to the hope that Willie will yet come back to her. The capers have never told her that he was 'lost,' and she feels that by some means he was saved. Every day she sets his plate on her table, that all may be in readiness if he does arrive; and every week searches the papers for tiding from the sea.

"I haven't heard from Willie yet," she says in answers to the neighbors' queries. "but I hope I shall this

How long her faith will hold out we cannot tell, but doubt ess for years to come she will be an anxious watcher. A sudden knock at her door will make her start and her heart throb quick and when the door opens she will almost unconsciously look for Willie to

come in. O! how many other mothers are watching, hoping, and praying for their boys to come back, boys who are wrecked almost as hopelessly and fearfully as were the passengers of the Atlantic -wrecked on land in the fearful dramshops that destroys more bodies and souls than the most cruel reefs on our coasts! But a mother never forgets them. Said an aged mother to me of her intemperate son now a gray baired man : "There isn't an hour of the day that my poor boy is out of my mind," And the bitter tears coursed down her furrowed cheeks. His wife and brothers had cast him off, but his mother's heart clung to him still with all a mother's love.

O, how can a son slight such love? How can he resist a mother's pleadings? The hour will come when its memory will strng like a viper, but often when it is too late to make preparation for past neglect and unkindness.

When we hear men boast of their own talents, we incline to think that their talents should be reckoned as the East Indians reckon rupees-by the lack.

'I am told,' said a gentleman to his friend, 'that Ned has married the gir that discarded you.' 'Ch! I am s glad-I am so delighted! But, nowhy should I be? The poor fellow nev er did me any harm !"

The applicability and thinks

## Ask the Old Lady.

A gentleman traveling out west relates the following amusing incident: Riding a horseback just at night thro' the woods in Saginaw county, Michigan, I came into a clearing, in the middle of which stood a log house, its owner sitting in the open door smoking his pipe Stopping my horse before him, the following conversation en-

Good-evening sir, said I. ' Good-evening.'

'Can I get a glass of milk from you

to drink? 'Well, I don't know. Ask the old

woman.' By this time the wife was standing at his side. 'Oh yes,' said she, 'of course you

can.' While drinking it I asked: 'Think we are going to have

Well, I really don't know. Asl the old woman-she can tell.'

'I guess we shall get one right away, said the wife. Again I asked:

'How much land have you got cleared here? Well, I really don't know. Ask the

old woman-she knows." 'About nineteen acres,' said again answering.

Just then a troop of children came running and shouting around the co ner of the shanty.

' Are these your children?' said 'Don' know. Ask the old womanshe knows best.'

I didn't wait to hear the reply, but drew rein, and left immediately.

#### The Honey Moon.

By one who has been throughout the misery.' Second day-Speechless esstacy; bliss impossible to be express-

Fifth day-Bliss still in the ascendant; appetite begins to 'look up.' Ninth day-Lady eats her dinner without being kissed between every

mouthful. Twelfth- 'O, you naughty, naughty boy,' not said so frequently.

Fifteenth day-Gentleman fancies a walk solus; comes home and discovers his charmer in tears.

Sixtee th day-Gentleman and lady promise ' never to go out alone in future, and are invisible nearly all

Twenty first day-Gentleman and lady fancy a 'little change,' and go to

Twenty fifth day-Lady begins to pack up, preparatory to returning from her wedding four; gentleman assists her, and only kisses der once during the operation.

Twenty eighth day On the journey, gentleman keeps his 'lady-bird' very

Twenty-rinth day-Commit the dreadful faux pas of falling asleep in each other's company.

Thirtieth day-Arrive home; greeted by mother in-law upon the thresh hold, mother-in-law hugs her son, and vanishes aloft with daughter; husband dancing attendance in sitting-room hours; already feels savage because the dinner is getting cold, and spirit begins to rebel against the mother of his Amelia. Amelia presently deseeuds, looking very charming; husband brightens up, dinner put on the table; mother-in-law drinks, and affected to tears; Amelia consoles her dear 'ma;' evening wears on; motherin-law leaves; Augustus returns in ward thanks, and goes to bed, determined to be at the store early in the morning and wake up the clerks.

### Who is a Gentleman!

A gentleman is a person not merely acquainted with certain forms and etiquette of life, easy and self-possessed in society, able to speak and act and move in the world without awk wardness, and free from halits which are vulgar and in bad taste A gentleman is something beyond this; that which lies at the root of every Christian virture. It is the thoughtful de-

sire of doing in every instance what others should do unto him. He is constantly thinking, not indeed how he may give pleasure to others for the mere sense of pleasing, but how he may avoid hurting their feelings .-When he is in society he scrupulously ascertains the position, and relations of every one with whom he comes in contact, that he may give to each his due honor, his proper position. He studies how he may avoid touching in conversation upon any subject which may needlessly hurt their feelings how he may abstain from any allusions which may call up a disagreeable or offensive association. A gentleman never alludes to, never even appears conscious of any persons' defect, bodily deformity, inferiority of talent, of rank, of reputation in the person in whose society he is placed. He never assumes any superiority to himself. never ridicules, never sneers, never boosts, never makes a display of his own power. or rank, or advantages such as is implied in habits, or tricks, or inclinations which may be offensive

#### Do Right Everywhere

to others.

Man's only safety is in doing right at all time, and under all circumstant ces. It is Satan's trick to make onr doing right depend on persons and places. He who does wrong because no one will know it, will be terribly disappointed when his sins shall find him out. He who ceases to be watchful and circumspect in the presence of his triends, will find that these friends in whom he thus confided in an unguarded hour, will betray his confidence and become his foes, will rebuke what they before have justified, and accuse him of the very acts which they aided and encouraged him in.

Do right every where. There is no safety in sin. Confide in no one: pre sume upon nothing sufficient to do that which is wrong. The watching eye of God is upon us, and when we depart rom Him, He has ten thousand rods with which to chasten us and correct our faults. Trust not in friends: trust not in secrecy; trust not in lies; do right everywhere, and trust in God to give victory and rest. Do not follow the multitude to do evil. Do not be a time server por a tool. Stand boldly up for truth and righteousness, and ever live with a solemn consciousness of direct and personal responsibility to God. Make no compromise with error, sin, and wrong; strike no bargains with Satan; every thing which he proposes is a trap, every thing that he promises is a delusion and a snare. Man is weak. Satan wily, only God is true. Trust in Him; do right every where, and He shall protect, direct, and save you at the end .- Ex.

Speaking of delinquent subscribers and newspaper borrowers, our attention was drawn to the following extract from Will Carleton's Farm Ballads .-It hits the nail squarely on the head Good morning sir :- Mr. Editor, how is the folks to day?

I owe you for next year's paper; thought I'd come in and pay. And Jones is going to take it, and this

is the money, here: shut down on lending it to him, and

coaxed him to try it a year. And here is a few little items, that happened last week in our town

I thought they'd look good for the paper, and so I just iotted them down: d here's a bucket of cherriss, my

wife picked expressly for you: And a small bunch of flowers from Jennie, she thought she must send something too. And now you are chuck full of business,

and I wont be taking your time.

tered 'he's a regular editor's trump.'

I've something of my own to attend to good day sir, I believe l'Il climb." The Editor sat in his sanctum, and brought down his fist with a thump God bless this old farmer, he mut-

A wag, observing on the door of house the names of two physicians, remarked that it put him in mind of a double barrelled gun; if one missed the other would be sare to kill.

# Che Courier

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Charley was a young husband-a hus

band of six weeks only. Intends going

to---on business of importance. Time

sport-Train starts at 2, 40, 'precisely.'

out? I want to pack 'em in my trunk,

sofs,) 'No. they aint't Charley. !

can't do everything and practice my

music besides. You'll find them in the

top-drawer of the bureas, I guest,

Charley plunges his bands and head

in the drawer Gracious, Angy, they

ain't here-and I can't find any clean

pocket handkerchiefs-and the collars,

Angeline, in a dozy reverie. 'Char-

ley, you are too tiresome-you know

can't sew on collar strings; and now

this morning to the laundress,

remember, I gave out all your shirts

'Husband of six week, (blubbering

like a sodo fount (- 'Only this morning!

You knew a week ago I was to go

traveling this morning! What am I

to do for a shirt, madam ! Must I go

to-with the shirt Nature gave me!

I tell you, Madam, you must alter .-

'Angeline, (contemptuously ) 'Shirts.

buttons ! strings ! Go buy a dozen !

rid b-bru-brute, Sir; and Pil g-g-go

bo-home to my m-ma-mamma, that-

hat I will, Sir,' 'Cries.

sweet span, very !"

As for you, Sir, you are a hor-hor-hor-

Young Husband, (looking at his

watch.) - Ten minutes past 2. Train

starts at 2:40. Your Mabe a-hum

She's an old cat, and yo 're a kitten-

go to your Mamms, buss. You're a

(Throws some things in his trunk .-

Calls a Porter, and hastens to the Rail-

road station, revolving in his mind

whether "twere better to bear the ills"

he has or fly to some wild meantain

and be a hermit. Angeline screams and

falls on the sofa, crushing the poor

poodle hid under the cushion-concert

'a la bowl.' Charley reaches station at

2:412—hears the steam-whistle blow

its horrid blast just a mile on its way.

Feels just like a man little too late.

Wonders if all men have their shirts

ready. Wends his way home slowly

and finds his wife playing and singing

at a terrible 2:40 rate : 'The laddie

that wooed me in the meadows green !

There are faw, very few, that will

own themselves in a mistake, though

all the world see them in downright

Childhood shows the man as morn

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This unrivalled Medicine is w rrented not

ing shows the day/

Do you hear? You must alter!

deuce take it, are without strings !"

'Angeline, my dear, are my shirts laid

'Angeline, my dear,' (folling on the

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