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BY JOHN A. BACKHOUSE.

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TERMS.

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POETRY.

JERUSALEM.

BY T. K. HERVEY.

Pale daughter of Zion! all wasted with weeping,
Thy footstool the desert, its dust on thy head,
Thy long weary watch o'er the wilderness keeping
And sitting in darkness like them that be dead;
A veil like the widow's hath shadowed thy pride,
And a sorrow is thine like no sorrow beside.

And sadly thy son, by each far foreign river
Still sits as he sat in the Babel of old;
Alone 'mid the nations; all homeless forever,
Mid home full of children, and poor 'mid his gold;
With the mark on his brow of the brand on his brain,
Like the record God wrote on the forehead of Cain.

Weary with wandering and wasted with sadness,
And walking by lights that are all from the past;
Wishes, scarce hopes, waken smiles without gladness,
As backward his thoughts like the mourner's are cast,
For the fate of the Hebrew who wanders away,
Is the image and type of his people to-day.

A proverb to most and a moral to all,
And a lamp unto others, though sitting in gloom,
Seems like a mote in a festival hall,
For the jubilee looking that's promised to come;
Like the children of Eblis, he hideth his smart,
And walks through the world with his hand on his heart.

THE BLUE KNIGHT.

A CONCENTRATED ROMANCE—BY ALFRED CROWQUILL.

Chap. I.—AN ARRIVAL.

On the summit of the loftiest tower of the castle of Altenberg gaily flaunted in the evening breeze the flag of the re-loutable and right valiant Baron Ulric. His only daughter, the incomparably beautiful Elvina, was the sole object of his love and fear; her filial tenderness was the cause of the first, her wit and beauty of the latter; for, as the fairest flowers attract the bees, and the dazzling flame the moth, so did he dread lest some adventurous and unworthy knight might be attracted by the charms, and win the affections of his child. The Baroness of his early love had long since yielded to the arms of death, and the barrenness of his domains was alone left for his enjoyment. Secluded from the world, the Baron trusted that his daughter would remain unscathed by the random arrows of love, until he could select some stalwart knight of wealth and valor on whom he should be proud to bestow her hand.

Compelled to take the field to repel the invasion of an enemy of one of his distant allies, he left the castle of Altenberg in the care and custody of his warder, and two or three vassals.

The moon had just risen, and the inmates of the castle retired for the night, when a Knight, attended by his faithful esquire, approached the borders of the castle-moat.

"Seest thou that moat?" inquired the Knight.
"Ay, truly, your Worship," replied the esquire, "for do not the wise ones say that we sooner see the mote in our neighbor's eye than the beam in our own?"

"We must have a lodging there, Grummel," continued the Knight; "blow me yonder horn."
"With what breath I have," said Grummel; "for I'm blown myself, as well as the steeds, with our long journey."

The horn was sounded, and the warder appeared at the wicket.

"In the name of St. Grimbald," cried Grummel, "give shelter to the valiant Knight, Sir Wilhelm of Dusseldorf, and his trusty esquire."
"The Baron Altenberg is abroad," said the warder, in an exoneratory tone.

"And so are we," replied Grummel; "for we have lost our way."
"Tarry awhile," answered the warder, after a moment's consideration, and closing the wicket, departed.

"A discourteous knave," grumbled Grummel, "keeping us here like a couple of dogs."
"How, sirrah?"

"Why, did he not bid us tarry here; and therefore we are not in better condition than a couple of *tarriers*!"

"We cannot bite, therefore bark not," answered the Knight.

The warder again made his appearance; the drawbridge was lowered, and the Knight and his esquire crossed the moat.

"The Lady Elvina welcomes the stranger Knight to her father's castle," said the warder, obligingly.

"I kiss her hands," replied the Knight, "and thank her for her courtesy."
And as they were ushered into a spacious hall, and while they unarmed, the board was spread with substantial fare for their refectation.

"I am anxious to pay my respects to the lady," said the Knight.

"And I to the fare," replied Grummel, vigorously attacking a boar's head.

"She is not visible, Sir Knight," said the warder.

"Then it's impossible we can see her," said Grummel, falling to. "She is doubtless a morning star, your Worship!"

"What then?"

"Why, then, your Worship, the Knight cannot expect her presence."

Chap. II.—AN ENGAGEMENT, BOTH IN LOVE AND WAR.

At an early hour the following morning, Grummel having dressed his master in a superb blue velvet doublet and suit, proceeded to the kitchen to dress his breakfast. Sir Wilhelm, meanwhile, descended to the castle garden, where he encountered the blushing Elvina.

After the due acknowledgement of her hospitality, the Knight, who was, of course, deeply enamored at the first glance by her transcendent charms, began to make a little love on his own account. The innocent Elvina listened with pleasure to the silver music of his sweet discourse and courtly compliments, for he had been to court, and now had come to court again. And in a few minutes, after the fashion of those romantic times, she surrendered the fortress of her affections. She did not indeed "tell her love," but referred him to her father with such an expressive blush as gave him confidence. At this pleasant juncture, the old warder rushed breathlessly into the garden, and interrupted their placid felicity, by hurriedly informing them that a petty Baron, with whom his lord was at feud, had just appeared before the castle with a force one hundred and fifty strong, and demanded the immediate surrender, threatening to put the whole garrison to the sword if they resisted.

"O! Sir Knight," exclaimed he, "repay our hospitality by thy succor and counsel in this extremity. What's to be done?"

"Arm instantly, and let us defend the castle to the death," replied the brave Sir Wilhelm. "Lady, retire to thy chamber; put up thy prayer for our success, and Heaven and St. Grimbald help us."

Hastily quitting Elvina, he retired to arm. Grummel was still in the kitchen, preparing his morning repast.

"Away with these rascals!" exclaimed the esquire, on hearing the news, "there is a less savory broil preparing for us by the enemy. We are in a pickle, 'tis true; but small as we are, as the capscums said to the cauliflower, they shall find us hot withal, and not at all to their palate."

"If they ford the moat, and scale the walls, we are lost," said one of the three vassals.

"Tut, man," exclaimed Grummel, who was an old soldier, and knew all the resources of war, "fill the kettles presently with pitch, and hand me the ladders, and long ere they reach the parapet, I'll pitch 'em over."

"There's the horn again," cried the warder, "summoning us to surrender."

"What o' that?" said Grummel, encouragingly; "we're not *real* to be spoiled by their blowing. Pluck up courage, my boys, and lend me a bow, and I do not put a cloth-yard shaft into the varlet, and pin him like a cock-chaffer to the gate, I'm a ninny!"

While he kept talking in this strain, he armed himself and his master.

The "garrison" was soon in battle array. Grummel now proceeded to his post with two of the vassals, and proved his skill and strength by executing his vaunt, for at the identical moment the herald was about to blow another blast, he shot an arrow through his heart, and transfixed him to the spot.

"If all the castles in the world," there is no chance of that, I'm sorry to say, but I'm a ninny!"

Nailed, by St. Grimbald! There is no succor for him poor fellow! May all the rest of the wounded find *leeches* in the moat!

This exploit was the signal of assault, and a shower of arrows fell upon the castle.

"Let the porcupine shoot his quills at the boar!" said Grummel, "he is only throwing away his means of defence. Hand me that pebble," continued he, pointing to a stone of half a hundred weight. It was soon raised, and hurled by one of their warlike machines into the thickest of their foes. "That has made an impression," cried he; "it is quite a smash; there's half a dozen at least *stone* dead; another little one," said he, "we sha'n't miss that, though it should miss them. Besides, it will be as well, as they have challenged us, to show them we have a *second*."

While Grummel was thus ably executing his part, the Blue Knight (for so was Sir Wilhelm called, from the favorite color of his armor and appurtenances) directed his little force with equal skill, dexterity, and advantage. The engagement now began to assume a more serious appearance; the enemy began to fill the moat, in order to proceed to the *escalade*. The little garrison was now concentrated. The boiling pitch and water were supplied by two of the vassals, and the besieging party had no sooner succeeded in raising a scaling ladder, and began to mount, than they were saluted by a cataract-like discharge of scalding water.

"'Tis but a fair return," said Grummel; "as they keep us in suspense that we should keep them in hot water! Down with it, my comrades, till they're done in their armor like lobsters in their shells! Another pebble! What, no more! Then up with the flags from the court-yard, and break their ladder—they're the only *flags* we'll lower to them."

These new missiles were speedily provided, and did great execution; the ladder was dashed to fragments, and numbers of the assailants were precipitated headlong into the moat. The Blue Knight was unwearied in his exertions, and encouraged his little force by his daring example.

"Bravo!" exclaimed Grummel; "we have metted the enemy's courage, and sharpened our own."

The discomfited leader now retreated, and rallied together his remnant.

"By George!" exclaimed the Squire, "they are forming for a fresh assault. We have so far lost nothing; and yet in the language of the lawyers, they may be said to have gained the 'action,' for they have already got considerable 'damages.'"

"And see yonder," cried the warder, extending his right arm, "there comes my liege lord. I recognize his banner. What a happy diversion!"

"Very diverting, indeed!" replied Grummel; "mark how the scamps are making ready to scamper. The bow-men are all like cross-bows, prepared for a *bolt*!"

The Baron Ulric von Altenberg now galloped to the scene of action with all his band. The besiegers were in an instant scattered

over the plain, like a flight of affrighted sparrows in a corn field, when some adventurous Cockney boldly takes the field to—waste his powder.

"Wheugh!" whistled the Squire, "that fellow hath truly brought his pigs to a fine market. While the Baron is pickling the lot, let us descend and clear away the *litter* he has left."

The Warder lowered the drawbridge, and the Blue Knight sallied forth with the "garrison" to pick up the wounded which they had so dexterously picked off. The moat was so full that Grummel declared it was more like a folk-moat than any thing else. When they had got in the "living," which the Squire declared was no "sinecure," the gentle Elvina, as was the wont of those days, humbly busied herself in dressing their wounds.

They then proceeded to draw the moat, and fished up many a *pike*!

The trumpets of the victorious Baron now sounded merrily, and they all rushed out to greet him. Ulric and the Blue Knight embraced with true chivalric ardor, and when the Baron learned from the blushing Elvina the extent of his obligation to Sir Wilhelm, the expressions of his gratitude were unbounded.

CHAP. III.—A REMARK.

"Fool that I was to leave my castle alone," said the Baron.

"And wise would the enemy have been if they had done so," said Grummel.

CHAP. IV.—A CLOUDY PROSPECT.

"I'm bound to serve you," said the Missal to the Monk as he clasped it—and so said the bold Baron Altenberg when he encountered the Blue Knight on the morning following the affray. Grummel, like an independent man, was serving himself; for chine, chickens, and flowing flagons graced the Baronial board in the most tempting profusion.

"Left wing forward!" exclaimed the Squire, dismembering a pullet; "right wing advance! chine support right wing! Fall in!" and at the word of command he commenced a vigorous assault. He then proceeded to demolish the "breast work," as he termed it, and finally completed his gastronomico-military evolutions, by ordering the "left leg first," when the "right" followed as a matter of course!

Meanwhile the Blue Knight was doing the agreeable to the old Baron, and insidiously insinuating that he was a single man; and plainly demonstrated that he was an eligible match for any young lady who (in the advertising phrase) "Wanted a partner who could command," &c. &c. The Baron was confused and not knowing exactly what to reply, he endeavored to divert the attack by simply looking under the table, and ingeniously calling "Puss! puss!"

"What does he mean?" said the Blue Knight.

"He smells a rat to be sure," whispered the acute Grummel.

CHAP. V.—COUNSEL.

When they retired, Grummel addressed his master in these words:—

"I can tell you which way the wind blows, your Worship, as well as a weathercock. It's my mind the Baron wishes to deprive us of the Lady Elvina."

"Us?" repeated Sir Wilhelm.

"To be sure, when she's your wife, will she not be my mistress?" replied Grummel. "Now I'm resolved on the match, for thereby you'll get a better half and I better quarters. Two things no less agreeable than essential to our happiness."

"What's to be done?"

"Why, the whole garrison are in favor of the alliance; therefore, pop the question—demand her hand—and if the old boy holds out—"

"What then?"

"Why, then, filially kick him out! and take possession of the castle we have fairly won by force of arms."

"You forget he is Elvina's sire."

"Will she not get a more agreeable *sigher*—in the shape of a lover? But, lo! here comes the comely dame herself—I'll vanish."

And the sagacious Squire walked off, leaving the lovers to their own sweet discourse.

CHAP. VI.—A SUDDEN DECISION.

Although the Blue Knight and Elvina were elegantly slender in their personal proportions the Baron declared in abrupt and vulgar phrase that "they were too thick."

"Honored father," said Elvina, "it is impossible to conceal from your parental eyes that I entertain an affection for Sir Wilhelm—and I know that he returns it."

"So much the better!" replied the Baron, "for it would be dishonorable in him to keep your affections, when he knows he cannot keep you."

"You mistake me, father," continued Elvina. "He has declared himself my suitor, and I have sworn—"

"Sworn!" exclaimed the Baron. "A young lady of your rank has no right to swear. It is indelicate."

"But he swore first."

"Then, if faith, you two sworn shall be fore-sworn," said the Baron. "Remember you are my daughter, and I am positive—"

"And I'm positive I'm your daughter," replied Elvina, "from the same feeling; for I have formed an unalterable resolution to become his!"

The Baron looked at the gentle damsel for a moment as in surprise, and then suddenly burst into an immoderate fit of laughter.

"Give me a buss," cried he, affectionately; "You are my own child—a chip of the old block!"

The affair was of course decided—the old Baron admired his daughter's firmness—the Blue Knight loved her for her tenderness; and the girdian knot of matrimony was soon after

tied in the chapel of the castle of Altenberg. Beauty presented her hand to Valor as the palm of victory; and Grummel had the felicity of being at the marriage-feast celebrated in honor of the nuptials of Elvina and the Blue Knight.

From the New Orleans Bee, 27th ult.

FROM MEXICO.

By the Schr. Bonita, from Tampico, we have received several numbers of a journal in the French language lately established in the city of Mexico. Its title is *L'Universal*, and it appears to be conducted with uncommon ability. To those who are aware of the difficulties which such an enterprise must necessarily encounter in a city like Mexico, this merit will be the more remarkable. The editor of a paper of this kind is obliged to be eternally on his guard against the suspicions of men in power, and is so far from being enabled to act with independence, that the slightest comment that escapes him on a political event, is sure to be visited with public ill-will, and should he persist in expressing a free opinion, his establishment falls sooner or later before the efforts of factions, or the despotism of the government. *L'Universal*, accordingly has adopted the plan of giving citations and extracts merely. But their *intention has been defined—the choice of ideas*, and this journal is remarkable for the interesting and tasteful nature of the materials of which it is composed. It contains a considerable portion of the debates of the Mexican Congress extracted from the other papers of the country—of which not only the French residents of Mexico, but the Mexicans themselves reap the advantage, in more respects than one.

We have perused with lively interest the debates published in some of these papers, concerning the return of General Santa Anna. That event, so simple in itself and so little extraordinary to every other nation, appears to have thrown the whole Mexican Congress into a state of stupor that is really surprising. The question whether Santa Anna should or should not resume the Presidential Chair after the constitution was changed, gave rise to a number of speeches, and good sense necessary to resolve, found in the Congress of Mexico, but three or four voices to declare that a new election was necessary.

The question concerning the agreements entered into in Texas and at Washington, was declared by some of the members to have resulted from the necessity in which the General was supposed to have been placed of saving his life or his liberty, and as not being entitled to any influence on the favorable opinion that was entertained towards him who has rendered such eminent services to the country!

The *Universal* contains the report of the committee of Congress, charged with the examination of the affairs of Texas, upon the propositions, made to that body by Mr. Charles M. Bustamante, in the sitting of the 11th of February. This report was ordered to be printed. It sets out by stating, that according to the information given by the government, information which is supported by official documents, and the details given in the papers of the United States, the enemies of Mexico taking advantage of the melancholy and unfortunate position of Gen. Santa Anna, have endeavored to induce him to contract engagements which menace the independence and involve the integrity of the Mexican territory, the sovereignty and honor of the nation. These engagements (say the Committee) would be of little importance as their nullity is declared beforehand by our Constitution, our laws, and the right of nations, if certain guarantees and acts were not required from him for their execution, which it is difficult to decide how far might disturb the peace of the country, and sacrifice her interests to a neighboring and powerful nation. Whatever the danger may be, the first and most important duty of Congress is not to suffer the least attack to be made upon the sovereignty of the nation and the integrity of its territory. We should fulfil the solemn engagements which we took last year, in the face of the world. It is proper therefore that we take such measures as are rendered necessary to preserve the nation from the misfortune and losses by which she is menaced. The Committee profess to be ignorant whether Santa Anna really has the intention of giving the guarantees required of him, yet from the known patriotism of the illustrious prisoner, they discredit such a belief; but whether he may have offered them with a view of gaining time, justice, as well as prudence dictates that the Representatives of the people should place it beyond his power to comply with them. They owe this to the nation—to the oaths they have taken—to General Santa Anna himself—and to the desire they all feel to preserve his honor inviolate. He may then say (should he have been led to make any rash promises). "My offers were sincere, but it is out of my power to comply with them."

The committee after discussing minutely how far such promises might be binding on the nation, and denying the capacity of Santa Anna to contract, conclude their report, by suggesting the following project of a decree, which they say, is to silence as far as possible, suspicion and calumny:

PROJECT OF A DECREE.

Whereas, it results from information obtained by the government of an official character, as well as from several articles published in the journals of North America, that the enemies of Mexico, abusing the unfortunate position in which General Santa Anna is placed, in engaging him to treat with them, have asked for guarantees for the execution of a treaty; and have forced a foreign cabinet to demand them—the whole transaction being to the detriment of the honor and independence of the nation, and to the integrity of its territory, the preservation of which is the first and most important duty of Congress; and with the view

of preserving inviolate all the rights of the nation, be it resolved and decreed as follows:

Art. 1. That as soon as General Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna shall arrive in the territory of the republic, the government shall require from him an exact account of the motives of his voyage to Washington, the result of that voyage, and the engagements he may have contracted since the affair of San Jacinto to the detriment of the Mexican territory, and to the interests and honor of the nation.

Art. 2. That the Government shall transmit to Congress the documents in order that they be examined, and such legislative action taken upon them as is deemed proper.

Art. 3. That during the execution of the provision contained in article 2, the General can in no case, obtain the reinstatement conformable to the laws of the country and the people to exercise a civil or military command.

Art. 4. The declaration of nullity contained in article of the law of the 20th May is hereby renewed.

The report and decree is signed by LAGLE, ELIZABETH, BARRICOUDES and VALENTIN, the majority of the committee. The minority are Messrs. GARGA and ELORES, who promise to make their views known at a later period. With the report and decree are published a letter from D. SYDNEY SIERREY ROSE empowered on the part of Santa Anna, against the propositions made by Bustamante. This letter after an elaborate panegyric upon Santa Anna, argues against the policy and propriety of that part of the decree which excludes him from assuming any military or civil command until he shall have taken his trial before the Congress, for thus the letter affects to consider this enactment.

The decree gave rise to violent altercations, and the severity of some members towards the ex-president was exhibited in the most shameful manner. One of them asserted that Santa Anna having exposed himself in defiance of the constitution of 1824, and having afterwards overthrown it in spite of a powerful party might with greater facility overthrow that of 1836; and that it would not be astonishing, if he should, supported by the tribunal party, refuse to acknowledge the new constitution!

In the sitting of the 15th January a member opposed the bill on the ground that it might involve the government and nation in a new revolution.

It is disagreeable to behold so much baseness and cowardice in an assembly styling itself a CONGRESS. From these proceedings, it is easy to perceive the part which an ambitious bold man might do in Mexico.

Another member said that the reaction (called the plan of Cuernavaca) commenced by Santa Anna, had not obtained the support of the nation, because religion was attacked, and that Jesus Christ had taken this means to rescue the nation from the abyss of hell in which it had been plunged by the Yorkinoes.

According to the new constitution, even when he shall have recovered his rights as a citizen, he cannot be elected president before the expiration of eight years. But is it possible for him to remain quiet? We think not. On the contrary we believe he will do all the mischief in his power.

The most timid opinions were uttered. One member said it would require 10,000 men and 2,000,000 to prevent Santa Anna from possessing himself of the supreme power. Even some members of the committee apologize for having spoken against him. "It is time," cried one, "for the government to act: Santa Anna will come and claim his place as president: the government will answer, if it can, here is the constitution by virtue of which your authority ceases, and you have lost your rights as a citizen; but if General Santa Anna places himself at the head of the liberal party he will overturn every thing that now exists, the constitution and the ordinance, the laws will be good for nothing, as force bears down every thing!"

At last the article of the bill requiring a justification from Santa Anna passed by 40 votes to 24.

The 3d article declaring Santa Anna to have lost his citizenship, &c. was lost by 34 votes to 30; and that which declared null all engagements made by him on the subject of Texas was adopted. From these details we may judge of the terror which Santa Anna's return has inspired, and of the servile spirit which pervades the congress. Nevertheless, in the sitting of the 30th, Don Carlos Bustamante having proposed a declaration that Gen. Santa Anna had ceased to be president, from the publication of the new constitution; the motion was referred to a committee who made a favorable report.

On the 22d the report was discussed. But there was no quorum, and the assembly declared itself permanent. The president sent for the absent members, but two of them obstinately refused to vote in spite of the decisions of the congress. Two sick members entered, but another went away in order to render the assembly incomplete! The assembly declared they would not adjourn even if they should sit three days without separating. At ten o'clock at night a member entered and gave his vote. The following decree was read.

1. Gen. Santa has ceased to be president from the publication of the constitutional laws.

2. So soon as he shall enter the Republic he shall render an account to the government of the motives, and all the circumstances which occasioned his journey to Washington. [The remainder of this article same as in the bill.]

At this time the minister of war, and a few moments after, the minister of foreign affairs announced the arrival of General Santa Anna at Vera Cruz, and they communicated his letter to the former, which we published a few days ago. Afterwards the article which de-