

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION:

One year	\$2 10
Six months	1 05
Three months	50

INvariably in Advance.

POETRY.

WHAT'S A BOY LIKE?

Like a wasp, like a sprite,  
Like a go, like an owl,  
Like a top, like a kite,  
Like an owl, like a wheel,  
Like the wind, like a snail,  
Like a knife, like a crow,  
Like a thorn, like a nail,  
Like a hawk, like a dove.  
  
Like the sea, like a weed,  
Like a watch, like the sun,  
Like a cloud, like a seed,  
Like a book, like a gun,  
Like a smile, like a tree,  
Like a lamb, like the moon,  
Like a bee, like a bee,  
Like a star, like a star.  
  
Like a coil, like a whip,  
Like a mouse, like a mill,  
Like a bell, like a rill,  
Like a joy, like a rill,  
Like a shower, like a cat,  
Like a frog, like a toy,  
Like a ball, like a bat,  
Most of all - like a boy.

A TEMPERANCE STORY.

"NOT A DROP MORE, DANIEL."

Daniel Akin had become a confirmed drunkard. So fully had he come under the influence of the bottle that he was perfectly miserable when he could not obtain the means of gratifying his thirst. He had neglected his family until his wife's father had taken her and the children to the parental roof. He had spent all his substance in drink, and was kept from the poor-house, only by performing menial services for his food, and by the kindness of Thomas Edgerton, a member of the Society of friends, who had known him from his youth, and who had a strong hope that, in the course of time, he would see his folly and turn again into the right path. Hoskins, the leading liquor seller of the place, had let him have drink so long as his money lasted, but would trust him no longer. He was lounging about the saloon one bright moonlight evening, pleading with the keeper to trust him for a drink. His reply was sharp and unfeeling:

"Not a drop more, Daniel!"

He remained a while longer and then left. As the cool air of the evening fell upon him, he, all at once, gave utterance to his feelings in the following strain:

"Not a drop more, Daniel! Am I drunk? or am I sober? I am sober. Not a drop more, Daniel! Did Hoskins think a drop would hurt me? No; but my money was gone. He has got all - got everything I had; even the Bible my mother gave me. He has got the boots which my wife, with her own earnings, bought for Jennie. Not a drop more, Daniel! Daniel, what say you to that; I say so, too. I once had good clothes, but now I have nothing but rags. Not a drop more, Daniel! till I have clothes again as good as when Mary and I were married. I once had a good watch; but that, too, is gone! Not a drop more, Daniel! till I have another horse and buggy as good as I once had. I once had cows that furnished my family with butter and cheese, but Hoskins has got them. Not a drop more, Daniel! till those cows, or others as good, are mine again. I once had this wallet full of bills; but now not a cent have I got. Not a drop more, Daniel! till this wallet is well filled again."

By this time he had reached the place where he formerly resided, and leaning up against the fence, he mused a long time in silence. He viewed the desolate place by the light of the moon, and his eyes ranged over the house and farm, once his own. He then said to himself: "Once I owned this house and farm. Here I was born. Here my father and mother died. Here I brought down their gray hairs with sorrow to the grave! Here I began my married life, and all that heart could wish was mine. Here Mary and I took comfort together till Hoskins came and opened his rumshop, and now he calls it his. In that south room my children were born, and there my Jennie

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died. Oh, how sorrowful she looked when she saw me take her boots and start for the store to pawn them for rum, while she lay sick upon the bed. And then, how she begged for me never to strike her mother again! I can see her now - her pale face, her wasted form; but she cannot come to me again. And, O, my wife, how shamefully I abused her! It was not you, Daniel, that did it. No; it was Hoskins' accursed rum! No wonder you were taken from me by those who loved you, and would not see you abused. They won't have me in the house. They won't let me live with you. Not a drop more, Daniel! till this house is mine again. Not a drop more, Daniel! till these broad fields and pastures are again in my possession, and the wife and children that are living are in yonder rooms, and we are a happy family once more. Not a drop more, Daniel! Help me, my God, till all these are accomplished! I thank you, Hoskins, for those words. I shall not forget them.

He had become so much occupied with his thoughts, and spoken in a tone so loud, that he had not noticed the wagon, which by this time had reached the road, in which was seated the kind-hearted Quaker before mentioned. He stopped his horse and heard distinctly the language Daniel used. As he closed his soliloquy, he turned and saw Thomas Edgerton, who said:

"Daniel, does thee mean to keep thy vow?"

"Yes, friend Edgerton, I do."

"Thee has promised a great many times thee'd drink no more. What makes thee think thee will keep thy vow this time?"

"I know, friend Edgerton, I have often vowed I would drink no more. But now I feel different from what I have felt before; my heart is almost broken, and I feel my weakness; and I believe God will help me this time."

"God grant that it may be so! Daniel, get in and take a seat; thee must be hungry; go home with me."

On the way the Quaker drew out of him all that has been written, and he advised him to go to California. He told him to go to New York and work his way round the Cape. He decided to do so. The Quaker kindly promised to furnish him with suitable clothing.

"Thee would like to see thy wife and children before thee goes?"

"I should, but they have become so estranged from me, if I went, perhaps they would not believe me. I think it would be better they should not know where I am. I want to surprise them; and hope to do so by coming back a sober man, and with money enough to make them comfortable. I prefer that you and your wife should be the only persons in the place who shall know where I am, or what I am doing."

Thus, while riding towards the quiet farm-house of the Quaker, the whole thing was arranged. When they reached the farm, the horse was put into the barn, and they entered the house. As they seated themselves before the fire, the Quaker said to his wife:

"Amy, thee can put on another plate. Daniel will stay with us a few days, and then he is going to start for California."

The good Quaker felt confident Daniel would keep his word this time. At the end of a few days everything was in readiness. The old horse was harnessed, and before daylight Daniel Akin was on his way to the railway station. He had not been in the village since the night when the words, "Not a drop more, Daniel," were uttered. He was missed from his customary haunts; but it was supposed he had gone on a spree, and so nothing was thought of his absence. No inquiries were made, for all were glad

that he was missing, and cared not for his return.

He had been gone somewhat more than a year, when the Quaker was in the store of Hoskins, and wished to hire a pasture for the coming season.

"I have one I will let you have free, if you will put up the fences on the place," said Hoskins.

"Where is it?"

"It is on the Akins' farm," was the reply.

"If ye will let it at that rate, thee must have let it get out of repair."

"It is indeed. I cannot leave the store to look after it. The house is poor, and the family that lived in it last were too shiftless to buy wood, so they burnt up the fences; in fact I would rather sell it than rent it."

"What will thee take for it?" inquired the Quaker.

"It cost me sixteen hundred dollars."

"Yes, but thee paid in goods, and charged thine own price for them."

"To be sure I did. Akin could not get trusted anywhere else, and I felt that I was running a great risk in letting him have goods, so I charged accordingly; just as anybody else would under the circumstances."

"But thee has not told me what thee will take for the place. I will give thee eight hundred dollars for it, if that is any object to thee."

Hoskins thought long enough over the matter to conclude that the interest of eight hundred dollars was far better for him than a farm for the use of which he realized scarcely anything, and at last said: "You can have it."

"Very well, Hoskins; thee can make out the deeds to-morrow, and ye shall have thy money. By-the-by, does thee know what has become of Daniel Akin?"

"No, he hasn't been seen in the village for more than a year; at any rate I haven't seen him."

We may tell the reader something that Hoskins did not know. The Quaker had that day received a letter from Daniel Akin, stating that he was at the mines hard at work and sticking to his motto, "Not a drop more, Daniel!" that he had laid up a few hundred dollars, and desired him to inquire what the place he once owned could be bought for.

Mr. Edgerton had taken the method above mentioned to find out the views of Hoskins respecting the place; so confident was he that Daniel Akin would come home a sober man, with money in his pocket, that he had ventured to purchase the place, to keep for him till his return.

He wrote to Akin informing him what he had done, and about three months after he received a letter from him stating that he had sent by express five hundred dollars in gold to a banker in New York, with orders to sell it, and remit the proceeds to him to go towards the money for the farm.

Gold at that time commanded a high premium, and the five hundred dollars became eight hundred before they reached the hands of friend Edgerton. Akin requested him to draw up a deed giving the whole property to his wife, Mary, to have it duly recorded, and left with the registrar of deeds.

In his letter he said: "If, per chance, I should ever break my resolution, I shall have secured a home for my wife and children. I prefer, however, that they should not know anything of this for the present. If I live to come home, I will give Mary the deeds with my own hands; if not, you can do it. Now that the farm is bought you had better stock it, for I will stick to my motto, 'Not a drop more, Daniel.'"

Another year passed away. By this time friend Edgerton had stocked the farm with young cattle and sheep, the fences were put in

repair, and everything but the house wore a tidy appearance.

Another remittance came which paid for all the stock and left an over plus with which to repair the house. Carpenters were busy, and villagers who happened to pass that way found that extensive repairs were going on; still no one presumed to question the Quaker with respect to his plans. These repairs completed, furniture found its way into the house.

A yoke of oxen were seen on the farm. The villagers were astonished to see the Quaker driving an elegant horse and riding in a new buggy. He received this short note one day.

"I have arrived all safe and sound. Please go and get Mary and the children."

Friend Edgerton rode over to the next town and called on Mary's father, and invited her and the children to go home with him and make a visit. The invitation was accepted, and they returned with the Quaker to his house. On the afternoon of the next day he said:

"Mary I want to go to the railway station. Thee and the children can stay with Amy."

He went down to the station and fetched Daniel, and left him at his own house, where he had previously conveyed some provisions, and where he was to pass the night. It was dark when friend Edgerton reached his home.

Next morning friend Edgerton said to Mary, "Mary, I suppose thee has heard I have bought thy old place? I have got it fitted up, and the children shall ride over after breakfast and see it. I think thee will like it."

They rode over, and Mary was surprised to see the changes which had taken place.

They looked over the lower rooms first; and over the mantelpiece in the sitting room was a frame, and under the glass, in large gold letters were these words:

"NOT A DROP MORE, DANIEL."

Mary, on reading these words, said, "O friend Edgerton, if Daniel could have said these words, and stuck to them, this beautiful place might have still been his."

"Then thee don't know where Daniel is?" asked the Quaker.

"No, I have not heard anything of him for more than three years."

"Thee would like to see him, would thee not?"

"Oh, yes, indeed I should."

"Let us walk up stairs."

As they went up the front stairs Daniel slipped down the back ones, and took his stand in the front room. When they returned, Mrs. Akin noticed a stalwart man standing in the room with his back to the door and started back for an instant. The Quaker said:

"It is a friend, Mary."

Daniel turned around; but in the man with the heavy beard and moustache Mary did not recognize her husband. Daniel advanced to the spot where Mary was standing, and in a voice tremulous with emotion, exclaimed:

"Don't you know me, Mary?"

We leave the readers to imagine what the meeting was. Friend Edgerton said he must go and see Amy, and addressing himself to Mary, said:

"Mary, this house and farm are thine. Daniel has got the papers and will give them to thee. Thee can stay as long as thee likes; thee will live happily once more, for that, (pointing to the frame over the mantelpiece), 'Not a drop more, Daniel,' is his motto now, and will be as long as he lives."

Daniel and his wife fell on their knees before the Lord. Their prayers were mingled with many tears, but in their future lives those prayers were found to be answered.

Several years have passed away since the above events occurred, and Daniel Akin, now an earnest Christian man, still sticks to his motto, "Not a drop more, Daniel."

POLITICAL.

From the Louisville Commercial. A Bloody Chapter.

A Letter from the Republicans who visited New Orleans.

NOTE - A portion of the following message and letter regarding Louisiana affairs appeared in THE COMMERCIAL of yesterday, and as it is a chapter of the history of current events, we to-day publish it complete. -LED. COM.

To the Senate and House of Representatives.

I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter, accompanied by testimony, addressed to me by Hon. John Sherman and other distinguished citizens in regard to the canvass of the vote for electors in the State of Louisiana. U. S. GRANT, EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 6, 1876.

THE LETTER.

To the President of the United States.

In pursuance of your request that several of the undersigned should proceed to New Orleans and there witness the canvass by the Returning Board of the State of Louisiana of the votes cast in that State for electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, we have performed that duty, and now most respectfully report that on our arrival in that city we found several gentlemen who came representing Republican State organizations, who have throughout cooperated with those who went at your request, and whose names are also appended to this communication. Between the gentlemen representing the Democratic party and ourselves a correspondence in writing ensued, a copy of which is appended hereto. Reference to it will disclose that a conference with us for the purpose of exercising an influence upon the Returning Board was declined on the ground that the only duty devolved on us was to attend before the Board, carefully to note the proceedings, and finally to report a faithful history thereof, with such opinions concerning the same as truth and justice should demand. Such a report we are now able to present, and we take pleasure in stating that our ability to do so is due to the exercise of the courtesy and kindness of the Returning Board, which entitle its members not only to our thanks, but to that confidence which a just public extends towards every tribunal which desires that all its proceedings should be duly presented to public scrutiny. It was our earnest wish that this publicity would be attained, but we should have felt a delicacy in requesting any privilege not in harmony with the usage of the Board. We were, however, relieved from all embarrassment by receipts of its formal invitation hereto annexed, delivered to us and to the gentlemen who attended at the request of the Chairman of the Democratic Committee inviting the attendance of five gentlemen from each delegation as spectators and witnesses of the proceedings of the Board, and this invitation was accompanied with an offer to furnish stenographic reporters selected by each committee to be present and make a full report of all the proceedings and testimony, and to secure the daily publication thereof by the press. The undersigned made arrangements for that purpose with the proprietors of the daily newspapers printed in New Orleans, and thus, perhaps, there and elsewhere, have been enabled to give such proceedings and testimony the widest circulation. In justice to the Board, it should also be stated that this privilege was freely accorded by its members without solicitations, and that they cordially united with us in a desire to have these proceedings published throughout the country. The scrutiny invited by the Board has been constantly exercised day by day. Both committees have been in attendance before the Board with their stenographic reporter, and in addition a privilege to both committees of inviting gentlemen from States other than Louisiana has been several times availed of. As the returns were opened, whether contested or not, the papers indorsed have been freely tendered to the committees for examination, and have usually been carefully in-

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

one square, one time	\$1 00
two times	1 50
three times	2 00

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spected, and as a means of detecting any possible changes in the returns after leaving their respective parishes, both committees were furnished by respective parties with statements of the vote claimed by them respectively, that by comparison it might be known if any alteration had been made in the returns to be passed upon by the Board, with which statement the returns usually agreed. Whenever it was known to the Board that a return was to be contested the attorneys for the candidates interested were sent for, to be present at the ceremony of opening, and when such knowledge was attainable only by inspection of the inside of the packages containing such returns, these attorneys were invited to be present before any action was taken upon it. There were thus secured in the manner stated publicity of all proceedings of the Board, the most careful scrutiny of every package of returns by it opened, and an opportunity for candidates insisting upon the validity of the returns to appear personally and by counsel before the Board in many instances before returns were opened and in every instance before action was taken upon them. It has been believed quite unusual to give such full and wide spread publicity to proceedings of a Returning Board, nor do we think that better means for permanently recording every word and act of the members whilst engaged in the discharge of their duties could have been afforded than enjoyed.

Having thus presented a statement of the means accorded of witnessing the canvass it may be well to state briefly the causes which led to the creation of such a Board in Louisiana and to call attention to the statute which devolves on it powers and duties of great public importance.

The white people of that and other Southern States had, by their rebellion, forfeited all rights to representation in Congress or to any participation in the Government of the Union and had been compelled as a condition of resuming their former political rights, to assent to the Constitutional Amendments, by which in hostility to their will those who had been but late their slaves were made citizens, and although it was their duty to submit to this political reorganization, the annals of the South, and especially of Louisiana, disclose a wide-spread and persistent determination of its ruling white people to prevent the use of elective franchise by the colored race, except subject to their will. This was manifested by the violence, outrages, and murders perpetrated in that State just preceding the Presidential election of 1868. They will be found stated in various Congressional reports. From these it appears that over two thousand persons were killed, wounded, and otherwise injured in that State within a few weeks of the Presidential election of that year; that half the State was overrun by violence, midnight raids, secret murders, and open riots, which kept the people in constant terror until the Republicans surrendered all claims, and then the election was carried by the Democrats.

The parish of Orleans, which contained 29,910 votes, of which were colored, and which in the spring had given 13,973 Republican votes, in the fall cast for General Grant but 1,173, a falling off of 12,795 votes. Riots prevailed for weeks, filling New Orleans with scenes of blood; and KuKlux notices were scattered throughout the city, warning colored men not to vote.

In the parish of Caddo there were 298 Republicans, who in the spring of 1868 carried the parish, which in the fall gave to General Grant but one vote; and there also bloody riots occurred.

In the parish of St. Landry, the Republicans had a registered majority of 1,071, and in the spring of that year carried it by 678 votes whilst in the fall not a vote was cast for General Grant, whilst for Seymour and Blair the Democrats cast the full vote of the parish, 4,787 votes, and there occurred one of the bloodiest riots on record, in which the KuKlux killed and

injured many persons. In the parish of Iberville, the Republicans had a registered majority of 1,071, and in the spring of that year carried it by 678 votes whilst in the fall not a vote was cast for General Grant, whilst for Seymour and Blair the Democrats cast the full vote of the parish, 4,787 votes, and there occurred one of the bloodiest riots on record, in which the KuKlux killed and

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