

POETRY

THE REFUSAL OF CHARON.

From the *Sonic*—By W. R. ATCHES.

Why look the distant mountains?
So gloomy and so doleful?
A rain-clouds passing o'er them,
Or is the tempest near?

No shadow of the tempest
Is there, nor wind nor rain—
'Tis Charon that is passing by,
With all his gloomy train.

The young men march before him,
In all their strength and pride;
The tender little infants,
They totter by his side;

The old men walk behind him,
And earnestly they pray—
Both old and young inspiring him,
To grant some brief delay.

"O Charon! halt, we pray thee,
By yonder little town,
Or near the sparkling fountain
Where the waters wimples down!

The old will drink and be refreshed,

The young the disc will sing,
And the tender little children

Play divers beside the spring."

"I will not stay my journey,
Nor halt by any town,
Nearby sparkling fountain,
Where the waters wimples down!

The mothers coming to the well
Would know the babies here;

The wives would clasp their husbands,
Nor could I part th'm more."

* According to the superstition of the modern Greeks, Charon performs the function which their ancestors assigned to Hermes, of conducting the souls of the dead to the other world.

WIT AND HUMOR.

SCENE—Waiting room of a railway station.
Personages—Said gentleman smoking, and railway official. Posed rule, "Smoking Strictly Prohibited."

Railway Official—"You'd better not smoke sir."

Traveller—"That's what my friends say."

Railway Official—"But you mustn't smoke."

Traveller—"So my doctor tells me."

Railway Official—"But you shan't smoke, sir!"

Traveller—"Ah! just what my wife says."

SLEEPING IN CHURCH.—It is a matter of record, that about one hundred years ago, an Indian was conducted by a pious dame to witness the services of the sanctuary on the Lord's day. When these services were ended, the citizen, on his way home, in order to impress upon his tawny friend the superiority of Christianity over heathenism, entered into a detail of the modes appropriated by the congregation of which he was a member, for the support of public worship, the erection of the house, the salary of the minister, &c. To all this the son of the forest, who had observed the drowsy disposition which pervaded the assembly, replied:—"Umph! Indian sleep just sound under a tree, and not pay anything."

To CURE A SORE CONSCIENCE.—Go to a printer whom you owe—rub an eagle in his hand till it sticks. The effect on your will be most cheering, and on him "astonishing."

Boston Post.

A young man at Niagara, having been crossed in love, walked out to the precipice took off his clothes, gave one lingering look at the gulf beneath him, and then—wrote home. His body was found next morning—in bed.

A buck, while being measured for a pair of boots, sneezed—

"Micks them cover the calf."

"Heavens!" exclaimed the astounded anob, surveying his customer from head to foot, "I have not leather erog i h."

Some of our young gentlemen are wearing the styles of shirt collars known as the "wafer collar,"—caused from the fact that a German student, having one, embracing his father, cut the latter's throat.

HARDEST CASE YET.

A few nights since, says the Boston Bee, a journeyman printer in that city had made preparations to be married; but strange to say, the poor fellow was on a morning paper, and could not get work. Business was crowding at the office, and he must attend to work; so the parson was sent for, the rite performed, and the poor out had to leave his wife, go to the office, and work "all night, till broad daylight," and go home to his wife in the morning."

YOUTH'S DEPARTMENT.

AMOS AND THE NAILS. There was a very bad boy by the name of Amos, who had a very good father. This father was grieved and troubled at the wickedness of his son and tried in vain to convince him of his sin, and induce him to reform.

One day the father said to Amos: "Here is a good hammer and a hog of nails. I wish you every time you do a wrong action, to drive one of the nails into this wall."

Amos said, "Well, father, I will."

Before long Amos came to his father and said, "The hog is empty. I have used all the nails. Come and see."

The father went to the spot and found the wall black with nails.

He said to his son, "Amos have you committed a wrong action for every one of these nails?"

"Yes father," said Amos.

The father said sorrowfully, "What a bad boy you must be, Amos. Why will you not turn about and try to be a good boy?"

Amos remained thoughtful for a few moments, and then said, "Father, I will try—I have been altogether too bad; and I will try to be a better boy!"

So his father, "Take the hammer, and for every good act you do, draw out a nail and put it into the hog."

In a few weeks the boy came and said, "Come father, and see the nails in the hog again." Every good act I have done I have pulled out a nail. See, the hog is full again.

"I am glad of it, my son, but Amos the holes are full!"

What did he mean, my little reader?

From the Wilmington Journal.

YOUNG MEN, TAKE WARNING.

The following inscription is on the back of a \$10 bill of the "Bank of the State of North Carolina," given to us by a subscriber residing in Wayne county, N. C., to pay his subscription for the Journal:—

"A warning to my young friends—
An honest life for themselves, for the purpose of saving some of my friends, with near \$800

in cash—good horse and sulky. I met with a gentleman who invited me to take a small game of Poker. I did, and lost. I then tried to get back at Farm. I continued to lose, and now my last bill, horse, and sulky, gone. P. M. C."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

NAVY SUPPLIES—1852—53. NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Bureau of Provisions and Clothing, March 15, 1852.

CLOTHES: PROPOSALS, sealed and addressed "Proposals for Navy Supplies," will be received at this Bureau until 3 o'clock P. M. on Monday, the 12th day of April next, except for Biscuit, for which five days' notice shall be given for every twenty thousand pounds required by the United States Army Yard, Washington, D. C., or Fort Monroe, York, or Hampton Roads, Virginia, such quantities as may be required or ordered from the contractors by the Chief of this Bureau, or by the respective commanding officers of the said Navy Yards, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1853, viz:

Flour, Biscuit, Whisky, Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Rice, Butter, Molasses, Beans, Vinegar, Pickles, Raisins, dried Apples, and Soap.

The flour shall be of the manufacture of wheat grown in 1851 or 1852, perfectly sound and in all respects of the best quality, fully equal to the last description of Richmond flour, in all the qualities essential to its preservation in tropical climates, and shall be delivered in good, round, bright barrels, with lime hoops and each head, and in good slapping order, free of all charge to the United States.

The Biscuit shall be made wholly from wheat, of which at least two third parts shall be whole, shall be copper distilled, and full first proofing, to the United States Army Yard, thoroughly kiln dried, well packed, and delivered free of charge to the United States, in good, sound, well dried, bright flour barrels, with the heads secured; or in air tight watertight whiskey or spirit casks or barrels, at the option of the Bureau.

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