

# AN OLD FAVORITE

## THE SONG OF THE MYSTIC

By Father Ryan



FATHER ABRAM RYAN was born about 1834, some say, in Limerick, Ireland, and others, Norfolk, Va., while still others say Hagerstown, Md. He was ordained to the priesthood and labored in many southern cities. He died in 1883. He was devoted to the cause of the south, and, aside from his devotional poems, none of his writings has more passion or sincerity than those commemorating the deeds of the Confederate army and the cause for which it fought.

**I** WALK down the Valley of Silence—  
Down the dim, voiceless valley—  
And I hear not the fall of a footstep  
Around me save God's and my own;  
And the hush of my heart is as holy  
As hovers where angels have flown!

Long ago I was weary of voices  
Whose music my heart could not win;  
Long ago I was weary of noises  
That fretted my soul with their din;  
Long ago I was weary of places  
Where I met but the human—and sin.

In the hush of the Valley of Silence  
I dream all the songs that I sing,  
And the music floats down the dim valley  
Till each finds a word for a wing,  
That to hearts, like the dove of the deluge,  
A message of peace they may bring.

Do you ask me the place of the valley,  
Ye hearts that are harrowed by care?  
It lieth afar between mountains,  
And God and his angels are there;  
And one is the dark mount of Sorrow  
And one the bright mountain of Prayer.



## THE WEE LITTLES IN THE ALPS.



An Extensive Club of the Mountain brings them to a spot from whence stern ice-clad Jungfrau may be seen.

FIND THE ALPINE GUIDE.

### Pensions for Confederate Soldiers.

F. M. Simmons, at Greensboro.

During our tenure we have appropriated and at the end of the present fiscal year will have spent over two hundred thousand dollars more than the Fusionists appropriated and spent during the four years of their tenure of office for pensions to disabled Confederate soldiers. Who will complain? Who will begrudge this pittance to these old heroes?

The Republican party has voted through Congress this year a bill appropriating one hundred and forty million dollars for pensions to Union soldiers. The Republican party has voted through Congress this year another bill pensioning certain persons who left the Confederate army, and it is said there will be paid out under this bill about five hundred thousand dollars annually in North Carolina. The amount North Carolina will have to contribute towards the payment of these pensions to Union soldiers during the present year will reach between twenty and thirty hundred thousand dollars. We do not criticise or complain of just pensions to Union soldiers, but it would be ungracious indeed in that party which has voted these liberal pensions, and to the payment of which we will so largely contribute, to the brave men who followed Grant and Sheridan, to begrudge the little mite which we have felt able to contribute to relieve in part at least the pressing needs of the brave men who followed Lee and Jackson.

### The Advantages of Using Convict Labor in Public Road Building.

1. That an organized force can be better maintained than could be done with free labor for road building.
2. It is cheaper than free labor would be.
3. It frees the country from the expense of keeping prisoners without any return value.
4. It engages convict labor in healthful occupation without bringing it in competition with free labor.
5. It is the best possible punishment for the common criminal.
6. It cures the tramp nuisance.
7. The result (good roads) is a benediction.

Some men who mingle freely in company without worrying over their lack of brains would be terribly mortified if they were to discover that they had no souls on.

### Deepest Mine in the World.

It is claimed, with reason, that the Red Jacket shaft of the Calumet and Hecla copper mine, in Northern Michigan, is the deepest in the world. It has taken nine years of day and night work to sink and has cost \$2,500,000. This shaft is vertical, but all the other shafts of the Calumet and Hecla follow the dip of the lode. Work on it was started in 1889, immediately after the last of the three great underground fires in the older workings of the mine, which did damage of more than \$1,000,000. Work has been continued upon it since that time, and the shaft stands without a parallel in mining. It is 4,900 feet in depth, or 880 feet less than a mile. It contains six compartments, each equal in size to an ordinary mining shaft, four of which are used for hoisting rock and lowering timber. One shaft is utilized for the ladderways, and the sixth and last compartment carries the wires and pipes for telephones, light, power water and compressed air.

### Shot Through the Heart and Lives.

The Lancet.

Cures by suture of wounds of the heart are becoming more and more common. Hitherto, however, all the cases reported have been of wounds caused by knife or sword, but M. Lannay, a young surgeon attached to the Paris hospitals, has just related to the Academy of Medicine the details of a case in which the heart was pierced through by a revolver bullet. During the operation the bullet was found lying in the pericardial cavity. There were two wounds of the ventricle, one on the anterior surface, these were sutured with catgut. The pericardium was then sutured in its turn and the flap of the thoracic wall was fastened in place. No drainage was employed, and the patient recovered without a single bad symptom.

### Her Papa—Yo' aspiah ter marry mah daughter, sah? H'm. Whad am yo' prospect?

The Suitor (a widower)—Ebery single one ob de pussions fo' whom mah late lamented wife done washin' fo' nab promised ter liberly paternize her success.

When a man has difficulty in finding a chance to propose he can make up his mind that the girl doesn't want him.

### DEMOCRATIC APPROPRIATIONS.

Judge Womaek at Smithfield.

The Democratic party is always open and frank with the people. It has nothing to conceal, its management is clean, it has no defaulter, it has always met every responsibility as it has arisen, and in this campaign proposes to do the same thing.

With the exception of the building for the blind at Raleigh, which the Fusionists decorated with Jim Young's name as a person to whom credit should be given, a small appropriation to the deaf and dumb institute at Morganton, and one or two small appropriations in 1895 for betterments to the insane asylum, the Fusionists did nothing for our great charitable institutions. In 1897 the Democratic party met the indebtedness and mismanagement of the penitentiary and attempted to look after the oyster industry of the State. It increased the appropriations to the various charitable institutions and made liberal appropriations for permanent improvements. But in 1901 it was seen that the contemplated improvements had not kept pace with the growth of the State, that numbers of the insane persons were cared for in the jails and county homes of the various counties, that the deaf and dumb and blind were not sufficiently cared for, that the old Confederate soldier was not sufficiently housed at the Soldiers' Home, and that the pensions previously paid to him were totally inadequate. The Democratic party, in advocating the Constitutional Amendment, had pledged itself to the maintenance of a four-months school, in each district of the State, which pledge has been kept.

In order to meet the responsibilities which this situation placed upon the party, it became necessary to make a large number of appropriations for permanent improvements and betterments of these institutions, increase appropriation for their maintenance and care, because of the great increase in the cost of living on account of trust prices, and increase appropriations for soldiers and for the cause of education. They passed a new revenue act, decreasing the rate of taxation for public purposes, increasing it for pensions, and increasing the amount of taxes to be collected from railroad, telegraph and telephone companies and the like. A number of provisions were proposed that upon investigation were shown would prove burdensome to the industrial interests of the State, upon which being shown they were modified to meet demands of the representatives of these interests. The hardships of the previous revenue acts, first enacted by the Fusionists in 1895 and 1897 and several of them retained by the Democrats in 1899, were relieved. The Merchants' Purchase tax was changed to meet the wishes of the merchants themselves, and as a result the State will not derive so great a revenue from these taxes as heretofore. And as a result we find that the revenues of the State have not been sufficient to pay all of its appropriations.

### Fair Treatment to All Interested.

F. M. Simmons at Greensboro.

As long as the Democratic party remains in power it will treat every legitimate interest in the State with absolute fairness and justice, and it will protect in all of their just rights all the agencies and instrumentalities of progress and development by the enactment of wise, equal and just laws, administered without discrimination and interpreted without fear, favor, bias or prejudice. Equality in benefits and equality in burdens is fundamental in the Democratic creed. This much every legitimate interest in the State has a right to expect and demand of the party in power, and this much every such interest will receive as long as the Democratic party remains in power in the State. But no legitimate interest in the State has a right to expect or demand of the party in power any special exemptions, either in duties or burdens, and none will be given while the Democratic party remains in power in the State.

### Buried a Playmate Alive.

MONROE, Sept. 18.—A most distressing occurrence took place at Ansonville, in Anson county, late yesterday afternoon. It was, nothing less, than the burial alive of a little seven-year-old boy by his companions. A number of children were playing "bury the dead" in a large pile of seed cotton. They scooped out a big hole and put one of the little fellows into it and covered him up, tightly packed the cotton seed over and around him. By and bye they dug him up, when it came time to change the game, and the little fellows were horrified to find that their little playmate could not move when they took the cotton off him. They pulled him out of the hole and found his body cold. The innocents had smothered him in the cotton pile and knew not what they had done until they had run and told some older people about it.

### Children's Eyes Diseased.

The Health Board of New York city have discovered that out of 55,470 school children, examined 6,670 were afflicted with trichiasis. This is a disease of the eye, so dangerous and infectious that an immigrant so afflicted is subject to deportation. The Health Commission has made this report, recommending that all the school children of the city be examined without delay, and that a room in each school be set apart for that purpose, and a physician be appointed for every three schools, so that the work may be thorough. He also holds the opinion that all children so afflicted should at once be excluded so that the disease may not spread.

Some people who get rich quick seem to think nobody will know it unless they make fools of themselves.

### SIGNS OF THE LAST DAYS.

Seventh Day Adventists Sure the World is Nearing Its End.

Lincoln, Neb., Dispatch.

The Seventh Day Adventists again are stirring parts of the West by their prophecy that the end of the world is close at hand. Their beliefs are now being spread in Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa, where many big meetings have been held in the past month. A two weeks' camp-meeting has just come to an end in this city.

The membership of the sect is now about 75,000 principally in the West, although missionary work has been pushed for a score of years elsewhere. The centers of the propaganda now are this city and Battle Creek, Mich. In 1874 Europe was invaded, and a great deal of the Scandinavian and Norwegian emigration to this region came as a result of these missionary efforts. In 1885 a church was established in Australia. Publications in thirty-seven different languages are now circulated, among them some of the dialects of the South Pacific.

The Adventists do not fix any definite date for the end of the world. They base their prediction upon the prophecy of Daniel, in which it was said that in 2,300 days the sanctuary would be cleansed. A day means a year, they say, and the 2,300 years ended in 1844, the year set by Miller for the end of the world.

The mistake of the Adventists of 1844 pertained to the nature of the event they predicted and not to the time, they say. What took place then, they believe was the beginning of the Day of Judgment. When that is over, the world will end.

The Adventists say the approach of the end of the world is indicated by the signs of the times, as pointed out in the Scriptures. The movement for universal arbitration, they say, is a fulfillment of the prophecy of Micah that in the last days many people shall say let the Lord judge and nations shall not war with each other. Joel says that while they shall talk peace they shall prepare for war, and the Adventists point to the great standing armies and the war talk of the day as confirmation.

In the fifth chapter of James it is predicted that in the last days the rich will be heaping up treasures and the poor crying because their hire is kept back. Every trust, they say, is a sign of the coming King, and every strike the posting of a notice that the end is near.

### A Smart Boy.

There was once a provision dealer who was minding his shop while his assistant was away at dinner. A nice-looking boy came in, with a basket on his head and said: "I saw a boy snatch up this 'ere' basket from the door and run away, but I ran after him and made him give it up. Here it is." "My lad, you are an honest boy." "Yes, sir. And good boys should be encouraged. In a box in the back room there are eight dozen eggs; you may take them home to your mother and keep the basket." "The shopkeeper had been saving those eggs, one at a time for weeks and months to reward someone. In rewarding a good boy he also got eight dozen bad eggs carried out of the neighborhood free of cost, and he chuckled a little chuckle as he walked home to dinner.

The morning after, as he returned, wearing a very complacent smile, in addition to his other clothes, his eye caught a basket of eight dozen clean, fresh-looking eggs. "Been buying egg?" he said to the shopman. "They look nice." "Yes," the shopman replied. "I got them from a farmer's boy." "A lame boy, with a blue cap?" said the proprietor. "Yes," answered his assistant. "Two front teeth out?" "Yes," said the man. The shopkeeper sat down and examined the eggs. The shells had been washed clean, but they were the same eggs the boy had carried home to his mother the day before, and now his shopman had bought them for cash.

### South Carolinians Gossiping Together.

Baltimore Sun.

The Governor-elect of South Carolina delivered an address last week at Wallerboro, after the result of the primary election was known, which shows him to be a man of liberal views. He expressed pleasure at the fact that the prejudice between town and country is passing away, and pledged himself to be "Governor of the whole people, to know no selfish interest, but to shape all his acts to the upbuilding, and uplifting of the entire State." For twelve years South Carolina has presented the spectacle of one class of its citizens arrayed against the other in political strife, although both classes were professedly of the same political faith. Governor-elect Heyward was chosen, as he says, "by the people of the State, irrespective of sections or factions." He will do all that he can to unite the people of South Carolina, and will have nothing to do with political factions. His guiding thought, he declares, "shall be the last words of Wade Hampton—'God bless all my people, white and black.'" That is an admirable sentiment. South Carolina needs a long rest from the turmoil and bitterness of factional politics. If Governor-elect Heyward's administration is all that he promises it shall be, it will be a great blessing to the people of the Palmetto State.

### A PATHETIC STORY.

Baltimore Sun.

A pathetic story comes from Brooklyn. A certain man, who had served a term in the penitentiary, after being released, went home to his wife and two little children, who had been suffering great deprivation during his enforced absence. The children were overjoyed to see their father, and they never knew the cause of his absence. The wife had remained devoted to her husband, and there was a most happy family reunion. The man does not appear to be of a vicious or criminal nature, and declared that the offense for which he had been punished was not intentional. He determined then when he got back to Brooklyn to work hard for his family and atone by all means in his power for the disgrace he had brought upon them. With this good intention he went out to seek for work. But he searched in vain. It was known that he had been in the penitentiary and no one would employ him. His position became pitiable. In desperation he applied to a street car company for employment and filled in the blank form of application with an assumed name, but did not sign it. He was employed as a conductor and went to work with joy. The company found him to be reliable and faithful and his family was very happy in what they called this time of prosperity. One day, after he had been at work, among the passengers on the car the conductor recognized the judge who had sentenced him to the penitentiary, but who had been lenient with him and had spoken kindly to him. In an evil hour he told the judge who he was and gave him his history. Later on the judge mentioned the incident to a friend, and the story came to the ears of a policeman, who had a grudge against the man and who promptly arrested him. The conductor had violated the law by applying for employment under an assumed name. The arrest seems to have ended a happy career and brought ruin upon a family of innocent people who were just recovering from a great calamity.

If the good people of Brooklyn will permit the law to be so applied as to destroy this man and his family, while so many flagrant cases of law breaking go unpunished, they are wanting in humanity. If the unfortunate man, after the struggle he has made to restate himself in society and to be a good citizen and husband and father, is denied employment, then the ministers of the Gospel should take the people of Brooklyn in hand.

### Race Prejudice in the North.

Baltimore Sun.

Race hatred and prejudice seem to be getting so bitter in the North that brunette girls may be compelled to use complexion powders. It is only necessary to be suspected of relationship with the negro race to be subjected to all kind of indignities. The other day in Boston the door of a trades union was closed upon all black faces. Then in Chicago, at the Northwestern University, the headquarters of liberty, a young colored woman who had entered the school was turned out in the street. As soon as it was discovered that she had negro blood she was expelled. But the most extraordinary thing happened at Evansville, Ind. A girl with a dark complexion entered at one of the public schools, and at once all the other children left and the teacher was confronted with empty benches. Truant officers were sent after the children, but their parents said they should not attend school with the dark faced girl, whom they suspected of being a negro. The board of education took the matter up and after an investigation discovered that the girl has no negro blood. She is simply a brunette, and her parents are French. It will be well hereafter for brunette girls, when they enter the public schools in the North, to use some kind of complexion powder. It is really painful to note the existence of such prejudices in the minds of our Northern brethren.

### Stories of London Weather.

London Daily Mail.

The Manchester Guardian tells a good story of the weather. The scene was a Strand omnibus. A leaden sky was overhead, the rain poured down uncomprehendingly, mud was underfoot. A red capped Parsee, who had been sitting near the dripping driver, got down as the driver came up. "What sort of chap is that?" asked the driver. "Don't yer know that?" asked the conductor. "Why, that's one o' them Indians that worship the sun." "Worship the sun?" said the shivering driver. "I suppose 'e's come over 'ere to have a rest." This recalls the reply given on one occasion by an East-India potentate to Queen Victoria, who asked him whether his people did not worship the sun. "Yes, your Majesty," said the Oriental, "and if you saw him you would worship him also."

### Today's Gift of Adaptability.

Charlotte Observer.

The New York Herald reported President Roosevelt, as he crawled out of the wreck, as saying to the motorman of the street car that ran into his carriage at Pittsfield, Mass., something like this: "If you lost control of your car of course it couldn't be helped; but if you didn't, it's a d-d outrage." The Observer's eye the other day fell on an announcement of a religious meeting at which Mr. Roosevelt is booked to make an address on the Bible. Are we to mark these things down as further illustrations of the President's remarkable gift of adaptability?

Many farmers in the county are declaring that cotton will reach the 10-cent mark and that those who are able to store the staple and wait will be financially blessed.—Charlotte Observer.

### PINE TREES ON THE SAND HILLS.

New York Sun.

About 15,000,000 acres in northwestern Nebraska are so sandy as to be unfit for tillage. Two-thirds of this region is still the property of the National Government. About twelve years ago the State Board of Agriculture and the Nebraska Geological Survey began to study the sand hills from a scientific point of view, and reported that it was believed to be possible to cover large tracts of this country with trees and shrubs from which a good revenue might eventually be derived. Mr. Hicks, of the Geological Survey, also reported that the foresting of the sand hills would probably lead to considerable economic results.

The National Government, therefore, sent a large number of Scotch, Austrian, rock and jack pines, which were set out in furrows in one of the worst locations in the sand hills in the southwestern part of Holt county. Practically all of these trees have thrived. The Scotch and Austrian pines have now attained a height of six to eight feet, the rock pines four to six feet and the jack pines twelve to eighteen feet. The trees are now entering upon the period of their most rapid growth, their thriving appearance shows that they are well adapted to the conditions and the Division of Forestry reports that they are certain, unless burned out, to attain suitable size for lumbering. These varieties of the pine tree, it is declared, are perfectly adapted for hundreds of thousands of acres in the sand hills, where the natural conditions are the same as those under which the present forest is growing.

It is proposed to continue the work that is so promising. An extensive forest in the sand hills would be of great value to the region where it exists and also have a favorable influence upon the winds and temperature of a large part of western Nebraska and thus upon the agricultural conditions there. The forest itself would yield, in fifteen or twenty years, fuel and posts, the timber would be large enough in twenty-five or thirty years for telegraph poles and railroad ties and thereafter, if properly managed, would be a source of continual revenue. The possibility of turning a large and worthless area into a region of great utility has been demonstrated. It is an interesting illustration of the efforts, now constantly widening to reclaim the waste places of the country and turn them to good account. In view of the progress that is being made in this direction, we cannot say that any region in our land will not some day be found capable of adding to the general wealth.

### Mulattoes Cannot Vote Under the "Grandfather Clause."

Charlotte Observer.

The Observer is in receipt of the following from a friend at Carthage: "A question which is having some discussion here is: Can a mulatto whose father was a white man register under the 'grandfather clause?' Now it is a generally accepted fact that most mulattoes are such from the fact that their fathers and not their mothers were white. Would this general application be sufficient grounds for a general mulatto registration? If not, could a mulatto whose mother was a negro but whose father is unknown register according to law? Is the burden upon the applicant for registration to prove that his father was a white man and could vote prior to 1867?"

Your subscribers would be pleased to have you give some editorial answers and explanations. I am certain such would be of interest to many people throughout the State at this time." Assuming that the mulatto was the illegitimate son of a white man (which must be assumed, as marriages between whites and blacks is and was unlawful) the negro cannot vote, as the law does not recognize that an illegitimate has any father and unless the said mulatto is otherwise qualified he cannot get in under the 'grandfather clause.' As nearly all negroes were slaves prior to their emancipation the presumption is that the grandfather of any mulatto was disqualified from voting prior to 1868, and the burden rests upon him to show to the contrary before he shall be entitled to register or vote.

### Pretty Hard on Them.

A correspondent of the Newbern Journal, writing from Swansboro, seems to be somewhat out of sorts. He voices his complaint as follows: "We people around here ought to be good people; we ought to be Christian people, but we can't, it seems. Now, we have a nice bar room near here that is near enough to get our drinks easy, and yet our people talk of good, sober officers needed. They would vote for the greatest drunkard out of jail, just so he was nominated by his party, then talk about good, sober government men. Nearly nine-tenths of all the men elected as officers now-a-days are either lawyers or drunkards, and sometimes both, and they legislate to suit themselves and you have got to vote for them or be called scoundrels, rascals, bolters, disorganizers or something mean. Then talk about good government. Bah! The poor people are in a bad fix in this country, and it seems they won't learn to vote as they think."

### An Ornithological Family.

The wife of a Methodist minister in West Virginia has been married three times. Her first husband was named Ridge, her second Sparrow, and the present one's name is Quayle. There are now two young Robins, one Sparrow and three little Quays in the family. One grandfather was a Swann and another was a Jay, but he's dead and now a bird of Paradise. They live on Hawk avenue, Eagleville, Canany Islands, and the fellow who writes this article is a lye bird and an interested relative of the family.