

THE DEMOCRAT.

WE MUST WORK FOR THE PEOPLE'S WELFARE

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The Singing Lepers
A Saxon long with me there
Of mounds—hump I have a woe
At every step, where do I go?
Most wretched be the accursed flood
Of pride from which I'm driven.
The waters halted, listening keen
To catch even near—what's that?
Sights like these—a tomb indeed.
A leper white mixed up the hill
Accomplish pathos sing the while,
His poor features worn emaciate
The crooked hands were clasped in piteous prayer
Wings—wings—wings—wings—wings—
Methinks he's been a thoroughfaire
And still his misery—his pain.

"I'll sit here while he sits—
Wee, with the skin, with streaming hair,
And his thin body, and his thin frame
The more we see with our sight
And the more we see with our gaze
How far you think these walls of pride
Will be—he deems? A moment's pause
Felt infinite wonder'd how I came
So senseless of my course
With such a party I know.

Humble frame—dreadful, I grow
To mourn the sore delirium
O'er him—stricken, whose grace doth
Unshakable the wastes of circumstance
Accomplish life and soul to Him."

The King's and nobles' eyes grew dim,
Then turning to his train the king
Said: "Go to the city
Is the man's sorrow, yet he bodes
What's best for his betrayer?"

This is perplexion shall here rise
We have not hunted all in vain,
This day is as a sword
Whose bladeth shall conquer pain.
Methinks now we're better again
With latter birth and milder word.

Loving Whitney Atletin the Independent.

KITTY DALE.

"Off ever I marry," Kitty Dale used to say, half in earnest and half in fun, "the fortunate man—or, if you like it better, the unfortunate man—must be a person who possesses these three qualities—wealth, good looks, sense. I name wealth first, because I think it is the most necessary and desirable quality of the three. Although I would never think of marrying a fool, or a man whose goodness I should be ashamed of, yet I think I would sooner talk sensibly for the amanuensis for the other, provided he were rich, than to economize and live in obscurity with any man, however handsome and sensible he might be."

I know not how much of this came from Kitty's heart; that some of it did the young will show. Without doubt she left her full share of Spanish castles, her education in the duties and objects of life were exceedingly important, but not absolutely fatal. But whoever I came acquainted with Kitty's truly romantic nature, could not doubt that she was capable of deeper and nobler sentiments.

And the time approached when Kitty must take the important step—the most important in a woman's life—of which she had so often spoken so lightly; when she would give her friends an opportunity to judge how much of her beauty there was in the world we have cited.

At the joyous age of eighteen she had a goodly number of suitors. As she saw a seriously encouraged but two, we will follow her example, and leaving the other unmentioned, consider the only really advantages and merits of her favorites.

Perry Goddard possessed many excellent qualities, which gave him the reputation among the older and more discriminating portion of his acquaintances as being the highly estimable young man among his compeers at "Fancy" and "Fellow." And among the young ladies of being "just as nice as he could be."

Kitty knew Frank she couldn't help it, and Frank knew it. He was convinced she preferred his society to that of Tom Wellington, his only rival.

The Tom Wellington, his comrades called him the "Duke," was neither an old, nor hump-backed, nor bow-legged, all of which I wish he had been; it would have made my story much more interesting. On the contrary he was a sensible, handsome, well bred young man; and so far as I know, there was not a trace of the rascal in his composition.

Besides these advantages, he, the son of one of our merchant princes, possessed an income sufficient to enable him to live superbly. He counted his thousand when his rival counted hundreds.

Frank rested his hopes, therefore, entirely on the influence he possessed over Kitty's heart. The "Duke," although just the man for her in every particular, as he was rich, handsome and sensible, could never succeed in winning her affections, and the amiable Frank could not or would not believe she would allow the better promptings of her nobler and better nature to be overruled by worldly considerations.

When he, however, one day insisted on knowing his fate, she started him by exclaiming with a deep-drawn sigh, "Ah, Frank, I am sorry we ever met!" "Sorry?"

"Yes, I have thought it all over; we may as well be anything but friends," "Well!" exclaimed Frank, turning away and nervously twisting his pale moustache.

"Never, never!" said Kitty in a tone scarcely a whisper.

Frank sat down beside her on the sofa, put his arm around her waist in spite of a gentle "Don't do that," and letting his voice sink almost to a murmur, spoke to her—to the proud Kitty—until she wept bitterly.

"Kitty," said Frank, in a tone full of tender emotion—"Kitty, I know that you love me, but you are poor, ambitious, foolish. If it is really your will that I should leave you, speak the word, and I will go."

"Go, then," murmured Kitty.

"Have you fully decided?" asked Frank, hardly able to believe his ears. "Yes."

"Then, farewell!"

He took her hand in his, looked for a moment at her pretty, tearful face, and then, unable to control himself, pressed them passionately to his bosom.

"You have been asleep," said he smiling.

"Asleep?"

"Ay, and have been dreaming."

"Dreaming?" inquired Kitty; "and is this all a dream?"

"I hope so," taking her hand. "I knew you would not drive me from you so easily; so I waited in your father's room, where I have been talking with him for the last hour. I came back to plead my cause once more, and found you asleep when I left you."

"All what a frightful dream?" murmured Kitty, rubbing her eyes. "It was so like a hideous reality that I trembled when I think of it. I thought I was married!"

"If it was so terrible," said Frank, "I hope you did not scream you were married to me!"

"Now I thought that I had given my hand to one who had not, and to whom I could never give my heart."

"So, then, to whom you give your hand must first have won your heart."

"Yes, Frank, he must," said Kitty, smiling through her tears; "and there it is!"

A Drink and a Rock.

I shall never again say that the Massachusetts people are not hospitable, writes the New Orleans Phœnix's Boston correspondent. A day or two ago I was driving along a country road just outside of Boston, and chanced to stop at a farm house to inquire my way. An old lady came to the door and, having given me the information I desired, politely asked me to have some coffee. She expressed her desire to drink a rock! By "a rock?" I rather supposed she meant a glass of milk. The "rock" was a luxury the nature of which was beyond imagining. Satisfied, however, that it was something fit to drink, I accepted it with thanks, and, having lit my pipe, we sat down.

My hostess, therewith requested me to be seated in her best rocking-chair, and poured me out a glass of water. Now, she said, "you have a dish and a rock, and rest yourself as long as you like."

"Yes, Frank, he must," said Kitty, smiling through her tears; "and there it is!"

A Sparrow Nuisance.

The English Sparrow is an enemy of

our native songsters and drives them away; he is the foe of the gardener and fruit grower, because he expels the insectivorous birds, and then seizes himself with the young plants, the buds and the fruit; he is destructive to the grape crop, and a rapacious feathered pest.

In ten days, Sparrows in Australia robbed

a single vineyard of three thousand

pounds of grapes. This bird is an enemy to the grain growth, and destroys the grain in the milk, as well as oats and winter rye in the ripened field. He devours buildings and destroys the vines that cling to them. He is not a destroyer of insects. These boldly beset the haunts of the Sparrows with webs, and force their crows to them. At first he博 the reputation of destroying caterpillars, and the measuring worm. But now our Cossack feeds on more toothsome meat. The State Entomologist of New York has proven by observation, that the caterpillar thrives where the Sparrow most abounds, and the same condition is reached by more than one English entomologist.

The plan for signaling occurs time

from sea-coast was first adopted by

Great Britain about thirty years ago.

That country has now constructed

fourteen time-balls and five other time

signals, and its colonies and dependencies

have twenty-six time-balls; Germany

has seven time-balls; France, four

time-balls and two other signals; Swe

den and Norway, Austria-Hungary,

Holland with Belgium, and the United

States, have five time-balls each. Den

mark has two; Spain and Portugal one

each; Italy, none.

Alaska, according to Prof. Morrow,

enriched the drought better than any

other place on the farms of the

University of Illinois, and red clover

came next. Of the rye grasses orchard

grass was best for quickness of starting

after sowing, and for the amount of food

supplied while growing.

Germany. We find in the Alpen mountains

that the time-balls are used for

signaling purposes.

China. In 1881, China sent a

representative to the Paris Exposition

to exhibit their time-balls.

India. What makes a time-ball

expensive? It is the cost of the

material used in making it.

Japan. The Japanese have

time-balls, but they are not

used for signaling purposes.

South Africa. The time-balls are

not used for signaling purposes.

South America. The time-balls are

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