

Poetry

By Wilkie Nelson Collins

GURNARD'S HEAD

(From The Bellman, Minneapolis)

Imperturbable!
The never-yielding rocks,
Worn ironstone protruding marble veins
—Flesh-wasted, but all sinews stalwart
still—
Confronting unremitting waves,
The plumed battalions of the sea
Leaping upon defense impregnable.

Implacable!
The ocean's ravining spring,
And clutching, tearing, shrieking fierce
recoil,
That frays contending forms it cannot
take,—
Corroding winds that search the coigns;
The keen sun's shafts of bitter light,
And sweeping storm-clouds' canisters
of hail.

Intolerable!
The elemental strife
The gluts the universe with ruthless
force—
Involving, overwhelming in a dire
Inherent chaos with itself
The stricken soul mute-witnessing
Life's brutal fact—primeval, ultimate.

Cornwall, January.

THE SHIP IN PORT: MIDNIGHT

From the Nautical Magazine, Glasgow

The blessed comfort that is there!
She lies
Quiet against the gloomy stretch of
dock,
With deck-lights glimmering
And her ports alight—
Our waiting shelter from the city's
glare.

In many ports our haven still!
We know
The city's specious ways, its sharks of
trade,
Its purchased kindness
And its unconcern,
Its heart that glows for gain, its hu-
man chill.

O arms of friends, far hearth of home,
O eyes
That greet the wanderer when the day
is done,
The household stillness
And the soft-piled couch!
Here lies your counterpart for us who
roam.

Her lights of voyaging are out—
No glare
Sinister of baleful green and threaten-
ing red,
Nor mast-heads' pallid
And distorted gleam,
Cast on our thoughts of sleep a warning
doubt.

Soft breath of steam whispering "Good-
night";
Loved smell
Confused of paint and rope and freight-
age piled;
The narrow passage;
The accustomed bunk;
And sheltered forfeiture of sound and
sight.

Pier 19, North River, New York City.

CALM

From "The Rough Log of an American Cadet in the Merchant Marine."

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Cease striving!—
Forever urgent, unaware of rest,

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Insatiable,
Tireless,
Unremitting,
Waxing nor waning, but full-fervoured
ever.
Not your storm-stress overwhelms
me—

The raring waves
Piled each on other,
The far-out wind-ripped crests,
The booming at the beach.

Not these!

Your storm is like my waxing strength.
But your calm not like my wane!

No surcease—

The tugging tide
Dragging the shore;
The ground swells moving
Sinuous beneath your film;
Magnetic currents
Pulling the passing keels;
Your still unceasing movement
And unwearying strength.

You do not gain or lose, but ever
are.

Not yours decline or growth, but sim-
ple change—
Transformed exertion,
Not the lapse of rest.

My weakness rouses at your storm;
Scarcely my strength can front your
calm.

Let surcease be—

An instant only!
That from you
—Continuous intolerable!—
My strength may gain assurance
By that instant's dearth of power.

St. Ives Bay, December, 1911.

PLEDGING ANNOUNCED

Delta Gamma announces the pledging
of Esther Church of Sheridan, Wyom-
ing, and Cleo Base of Portland, Oregon.

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of the bleak winter days. Better take "time out"
once in a while during this next week and drop in
for a sandwich and a hot drink.

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HERSH TAYLOR



WITH the close of the school term and
the approach of a new year, this firm
extends its best wishes to the faculty
and students of the University. It is our hearti-
est wish that you may all enjoy a Merry
Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New
Year.

