

SHADOWS.

BY H. A. CLARKE.

I.

MORNING.

Shadows take form when at dawning,
The waiting sky
Warms with the faintest warning
That day is nigh.
Then tints of flowing amber
Announce the ray;
Glintings from heaven's chamber
Look far away.

See, in the east, the mountains
Shake off their grief!
Dewdrops from myriad fountains
Claim every leaf;
The stars, their many eyes are closing,
As grows the glare,
While the night-bird's wing reposing,
Shows day is there.

And when the sun, reclining
On mountain wall,
Over the world is shining—
Then shadows fall.
Shadows of mighty mountains
Lie on the vale,
Slant upon streams and fountains,
Half lifted veil.
Tall, pillared spires of fir and pines
Catch the sun's glow;
Orchard trees and forest vines
Would stop the flow.

With every day comes toil and care,
And there are shadows everywhere.

II.

NOON.

Noontide on the harvest fields
Brings golden grain;
Ripening corn a gladness yields
In song's refrain;
Then the fervent rays come down
With such scant shade,
That the shadow's umber crown
Is welcome made.

There the reapers, noontide, linger,
To avoid the ray
Pointed by the sultry finger
Of the harvest day.
Winds that weave the storms of ocean
Then seek the vale,
To fan the worker's brow with motion
Of sea-swept gale.

Gales and shadows grateful come
To workers for the Harvest Home.

III.

EVENING.

Down the west the day is sinking,
Other shadows grow,
All the weary world is thinking—
The west aglow—
"Comes the night of rest and peace—
Comes evening's cheer,—
Comes the hour when toil shall cease
And rest from fear."

First, they waited for the morning,
That hour the best,
When the waking of the dawning
Shone toward the west.

Now, they weary wait the coming
Of twilight's hour;
Watching and waiting for the gloaming
With its restful dower.

First, they watched the east, impatient
For the kindling day,
Hasting, as the skies grew radiant,
To toil away.

Now they homeward weary plod,
As twilight comes;
Slow footsteps on the yielding sod,
Towards shadowed homes.

They know that hour, of all the best,
When shadows reach them from the west.

IV.

NIGHT.

Now all is shadow! With the night
No single shade
Can intercept the sun's grand flight
In glen or glade!
The fir tree stands athwart the sky,
A warning cloud,
And through it, as the winds go by,
They whisper loud.
No shadow is there from the oak,
But, 'neath its branch,
While from its midst the owl may croak,
A ghost might blanch.

A deeper shade can here and there
Almost be felt,
Night's shadow overmantles care
And hearts will melt.

The stars may linger in the arch
Of farthest blue,
Pursuing their eternal march,
The worlds to view—
As through the rounded ages past
They gleam in space,
And on our earth their glance has cast
A shadow's grace.

The moon, betimes, sends its cold ray—
A silver gleam—
The feeble rival of the day's
Bright golden stream.
Yet this pale empress of the night,
With strangest power,
Half fear, half pleasure and affright,
Bespells the hour.

Forgetting fear and joy, we slumber,
We rest and sleep, [ber,
While Night's weird splendors, without num-
Their vigils keep.
Moonlight, starlight, floating cloud
Or raging storm
May hide them all with anger loud—
We fear no harm.

We know the sun must rise again
In splendid joy;
Shadows shall fall on stream and plain
As life's alloy;
That love and hope shall sweeten toil
While life shall last,
Till free from all the brief turmoil
We sleep at last.

When comes the night that knows no waking,
And not till then, will day be breaking.

This is the season of the year when
venerable hens enter their second child-
hood and are broiled for spring chick-
ens.

The Chinese must go. The price
of washing has fallen so low that wo-
men can't make enough to keep their
husbands in food, clothes and whisky.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Questions are always arising concern-
ing various points in weights and meas-
ures, and we print the following scale,
recognized by the laws of the United
States, that our readers may preserve it
for convenient reference:

BUSHEL.	POUNDS.
Wheat	60
Shelled Corn	56
Corn in the ear	70
Bye	56
Oats	32
Barley	48
White Beans	60
Irish Potatoes	80
Castor Beans	46
Clover Seed	80
Timothy Seed	45
Flax Seed	56
Hemp Seed	40
Millet Seed	50
Peas	60
Blue Grass Seed	44
Buckwheat	52
Dried Peaches	33
Dried Apples	24
Onions	67
Salt	65
Stone Coal	80
Bran	20
Plastering Hair	8
Turnips	65
Unslacked Lime	36
Cornmeal	48
Fine Salt	55
Hungarian Grass Seed	54
Ground Peas	20

Peanuts, per bushel, African, 32
pounds; Tennessee, 28 pounds; Vir-
ginia, 22 pounds.

A box 24x16 inches, 22 inches deep,
contains one barrel; 16x16½ inches,
eight inches deep, contains one bushel;
8x8½ inches, eight inches deep, con-
tains one peck; 4x4 inches, four and a
half inches deep, contains one-half peck;
4x4 inches, four-tenths of an inch deep,
contains one quart.

The standard bushel of the United
States contains 2,150.4 cubic inches.
"The Imperial bushel" is about 68 cu-
bic inches. Any box or measure, the
contents of which are equal to 2,150.4
cubic inches, will hold a bushel of grain.
In measuring fruit, vegetables, coal and
other substances, one-fourth must be
added. In other words, a peck measure
five times even full makes one bushel.
The usual practice is to heap the meas-
ure.

The standard adopted by the United
States is the Winchester bushel, 18½
inches in diameter inside, eight inches
deep, and contains 2,150 42-100 cubic
inches. It is the legal bushel of each
State, having no special statute bushel
of its own. A half bushel measure
should contain 1,075 21-100 cubic in-
ches.

The United States standard gallon
measures 231 cubic inches.

Five yards wide by 968 long contains
one acre; 10 yards wide by 484 long
contains one acre; 20 yards wide by
242 long contains one acre; 40 yards
wide by 121 long contains one acre; 60
feet wide by 726 long contains one
acre; 110 feet wide by 396 long con-
tains one acre; 220 feet wide by 198
long contains one acre.