TOMBSTONE SENTIMENTS.

People Usually Resort to Rhymes to Express Their Grief for the Dead.

It is very unlikely that verses will be inscribed on the tombstones of the people who read this copy of the Sun. That fashion went out of style many years ago, and the beauty of poetry is now supplanted by the beauties of carving and statuary. To find interesting obituary verse one must now hunt up the old stones in the cemeteries and pick out with difficulty the almost obliterated letters. There are many such stones in Trinity churchyard, and thousands of people each week puzzle over the melancholy specimens of obituary verse inscribed on them. The hand of time has rubbed out many and others are fast fading away, so that hardly more than half are decipherable. These are of all moods-hopeful, cheerful, monitory, despairing, angry, hu-morous and religious.

One over David Evans, who died in 1787, is very terse. It says: Short was his life, Great was his pain; Much was his loss, Great was his gain.

Only nine words are used in the verse. On a broken stone, with the name gone, and only the date, 1767, visible, are these verses, which are evidently over the grave of a seafaring

Tho' Boreas blasts and boistrous waves
Have tost me to and fro.
In spite of both by God's decree
I harbour here below.
Where I do now at anchor ride
With many of our fleet,
Yet once again I must set sail,
My Admiral Christ to meet.

This was evidently a progenitor of the nautical religious hymns, such as "Pull for the Shore," "Raise the Anchor," etc. It finds an imitator on the stone of Captain Isaac Bangs, 1808:

Boreas blasts and Neptune's waves Have tossed him to and fro, But, by the sacred will of God, He's anchored here below. The following on the grave of Catherine Wood, 1788, is in the orthodox

My flesh shall slumber in the ground Till the last trumpet's josful sound Shall borst the grave with sweet surprise And in my Saviour's image rise.

Here is one of the affectionate type, evidently put there by a wife. It is on the stone of Samuel Boyer, 1790: Rest here, my love, while I in vain deplore Thy sudden fate, and grieve thou art no

Oh! may thy gentle spirit wing its way To blissful regions of unfailing day. The friends of Ephraim Smith, who

died in 1797, were evidently unreconciled to his fate when they set up this inscription: Relentless death, ne'er satisfied with prey. Hath snatched him in the bloom of life away

Joseph Pell, aged six years, who died in 1802, speaks from the grave in this

Like as a shadow or the morning dew. My days are past and spent, which were but Grieve not for me, dear parents, 'tis in vain; Your loss, I hope, is my eternal gain. Here is one of an amatory kind, over

Lydia Curtis, who died in 1804: Cold as this stone is now that lovely form, The sight of which could every bosom warm; Mixt with this earth its mouldering ashes lie, Ah! youth and beauty, this it is to die.

The reader must decide for himself on the merits of the following epitaph over John Jones, a Welchman, who died in 1805:

Gwrando ddun wrth fyned heibig Fel rwyter muinan a fyo Ller wy fy tydi a ddewy Ymbartoa ennys meru tyddy, The friends of James Stoutenburgh

wrote the following over him after he

Alasi how weak and feeble is the human mind When sorrows, care, and troubles are all combined To rob us of our worldly joy; Which, children like, we love as toys; What little fortitude or minds do show When beare down with wind and When borne down with grief and woe etc..

The widow of John Mathews wrote over his grave, in 1811, this stanza: I leave it all to God above To do his will and show his love, And when he calls we will obey, To dwell with him in endless day.

The following, written over a babe, is in marked contrast with most of the tombstone rhymes:

Ere sin could blight or sorrow fade, Death came with friendly care: The opening bud to heaven conveyed, And bid it blossom there.

Ann James, who died in 1816, aged seventy-six, was apparently glad to die. Her shrine says:

The world is vain and full of pain, With care and trouble sore; But they are blest who are at rest With Christ forevermore. Mary McCarr sounded a solemn warning to her parents in 1817: My parents dear, who mourn and weep, Behold the grave wherein I sleep. Prepare for death, for you must d o And be entombed as well as I. Deborah Ustick said in 1816:

Our life's a journey full of care, No wealth from death can save, Each step we take more near we draw To our dark, silent grave. The following, erected in the same year, is more cheerful:

Why should we mourn departed friends Or shake at death's alarms? Tis but the voice that Jesus sends To call us to his arms. Here is another verse about a baby

It was written a year later: As the sweet flower that scents the morn, But withers in the rising day, Thus lovely was this infant's dawn— Thus swiftly fled its life away.

Discontent, followed by triumph, characterized the following placed over Mrs. Halstead in 1819: Rejentless death, wouldst thou not spare A form so lovely and so much beloved? Ah! no; thy iron hand has grasped Her husband's treasure and her children's

But still amidst this tedious night of gloom, A thought, transporting, bursts upon my mind; Death had no sting, the grave no victory, Through grace, she triumphed in the dying

Blank verse is so rare that there seems to be only one other sample. It was placed over W. A. Lawrence in 1840. He died at sea:

Cold is thy brow, my son, and pale thy cheek, The bright expression of that eye has fled: And thou no more with thy soft voice shall To meet me with thy sweet "My father,"

— New Y rk Sun.

-Vases made of very porus earthen ware, when soaked for twenty-four hours, will retain on their sides a number of seeds resembling rape. By keeping the vase filled with water the seeds sprout, and shortly the entire surface is covered with slender green sprouts, making a handsome and lasting ornament. - Philadelphia Press.

OCK-FIGHTING

How the Clicken Disputes of Our Fore-

fathers Were Conducted. With all the antiquarian knowledge of the present day, we doubt whether one man in a thousand could give a tolerably accurate description of the cock-"cocking" hath its literature, and, beerable tradition concerning it, which ceived from the very mouths of our parents. The first and most important point in

birds. In most agreements for a cockfight—"articles for a cock-match"— was the technical phrase—it was stipu-lated that no cock should weigh less than three pounds six ounces, or more than four pounds eight ounces. When the cocks of each side had been weighed. the next thing was to pair them. This either side whose weights came within one ounce of each other. The lightest pa'r of coeks were always made to fight first, and then those gradually heavier, until the heaviest pair fought last. This venerable rule had been in use since the days of King shorn, or out, nor with any other fraud." themselves. The "noble sport" now began in earnest, and sometimes two brute was out of health. As I am not good birds would fight until one cock Zola, I shall not attempt to describe its had killed the other or thrashed him to symptoms.—London Truth. helplessness. But not uncommonly, after a sharp round, both cocks would suspend hostilities to gain breath, and, withdrawing to a little distance, each would watch the other in the hope of catching him in a careless or listless added to the excitement of the spectators; but human patience soon became exhausted when two cocks stood solemnly eyeing each other. Now the limit of time for cocks to ogle without fighting was fixed at the interval during The setters-to then caught them, and carrying them to the middle of the pit, "delivered them on their legs, beak to If either of them had been blinded in the previous battle, their heads were to be made to touch each other. If one cock refused to fight, he was tried ten times, and he had to refuse to fight as many times before he was considered beaten. It sometimes happened that the cock who would gamiler could be. "Gentlemen," he said, as he turned fight, died from his wounds before his adversary had refused ten times, and in that case the craven bird was cons dered to have won the battle. The law further provided rules in case both cocks refused to fight, as well as in other cases which it is hardly necessary further. Good-bye." that we should enumerate; but they count forty, twenty or ten, according to

Greece at least five hundred years B. C., and it was probably a very ancient sport in China, where it is still highly popular. In India, again, cock-fighting is an institution of very great antiquity. Mr. Doyle, in his book on poultry, assumes that the Britons practiced cock-fighting before the landing of Cæsar, from the statement of that author to the effect that the Britons only reared their fowls for amusement. Both Henry VIII. and James I. were fond of "cocking;" Oliver Cromwell legislated against it, but Charles II. revived it. The Royal Cockpit at Westminster, which was the head quarters of cock-fighting, was established by Henry VIII., and even in the present century mains have been fought in it. Newmarket has been the scene of numberless cock-fights. Indeed, it may be said that for a long time cock-fighting went hand-in-hand with racing, and it used to be reported in the official racing calendar, which was then called the Sporting Calendar. Taking up the Sporting Calendar of 1775, we read that at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, during race meeting the gentlemen Durham and Northumberland fought a "main of cocks," consisting of thirty-eight battles, and ending in "a drawn main." It is said that 1,000 during one week at Newcastle. The gentlemen of the same counties fought another main, at the Durham races of the same year, when Northumberland won, after thirty-four battles had been fought. Although the matches were sometimes made between individuals, it was more usual for the mains at races to be fought between cocks belonging to the gentlemen of two adjoining counties. Ten guineas each battle, and one or two hundred on "the odd," seem to have been the usual stakes; but there was an immense amount of betting, and the odds were calculated to a great nicety. Hoyle gives a table of odds which is quite appalling. For in-stance, he quotes one case in which the betting is 1 3,843,421-7,821,875 to 1 against a certain contingency. Dovle mentions a cock-fight in India for "a lac of rupees (£10,000)," but it is probable that more money has been lost and won over cock-fighting in

stood, from this description, that a great

part of a cock-fight was occupied by

the setters-to squatting opposite to each

Cock-fighting was fashionable in

-A German doctor claims to have invented a machine for looking into the

London Saturday Review.

England than in any other country .-

LABOUCHERE'S TRAVELS.

An Entertaining Description of a Ride in French Rallway Carriage. In my run to Trouville they so ordered things that I tumbled into a compartment in which there were a lot of ailing people, who had the corners at fights of his forefathers. How cock. the windows, and were so able to keep fighting is conducted at present we do them open or shut, as they pleased. not pretend to know; but ancient They did the latter, and the heat was stifling. My olfactory nerves were as sides, the written word, there is consid- much tortured as if I were a prisoner in a chemist's shop. A bourgeois next me some of us are old enough to have re- was holding ether to his nose and dashing it up his nostrils. He was in the door-corner of my right, with his back to the engine. The minute care which cock-fighting was the weight of the he took about his small comforts made sniffed his ether for about ten minutes, rummaged in his dressing-case for a fannel cap, which he drew on his head and down to his eyebrows; then he laid

For Throat Troubles and Coughs, use "Brown's Bronchial Troches." They possess real merit. on a newspaper spread on his knees some vials and lumps of sugar, after which was done by matching all the cocks on he removed his boots and slipped his feet into list shoes. The lumps of sugar were to be saturated with pharmaceuti-

cal drops from vials and swallowed. A lady on my other side, who was neither young nor old, had a migraine or nervous headache. She doffed her bonnet, and, folding a handkerchief. Charles II. Although the combs of the bound it tightly around her forehead birds were always cut, they had to Then, with a spray-producing appara-appear "with a fair hackle, not too near tus, she damped her head frequently with camphorated and alcoholized wa-The spurs were usually of silver, at least ter. A second lady, who was elderly in the great matches. At the time appointed for the cock-fight to begin, the had a swollen cheek, to which she appointed for the cock-fight to begin, 'masters of the match' took their seats plied wadding saturated with a liquid opposite to each other, on either side of containing choloroform. Her husband the cock-pit, accompanied by two offi- sucked peppermint lozenges to comfort c als termed the "setters-to." Then his stomach, and asked over and over the two "feeders" appeared each carry- again whether Trousseau's cholera ing a cock. After due examination, the drops were not forgotten. Her and his birds were made over to the setters to, relations, to defend their ears against and they handed them to the masters courants d'air, plunged them with oil of the match, who started the fun by putting the cocks upon the mat on the charge a whinning lap-dog, which, floor of the cock-pit. The next part of after we started, she took out of a the business the cocks managed for basket, into which it was stuffed again as we drew near to a halting-place. The

THE GAMBLER'S VICTIM.

A Clever Trick Performed at the Expense of Sympathizing Greenhorns.

The steward said it was quite like old moment. For a short time this rather times. In the main cabin were five or six card tables and there was a crowd at every one. When the play grew hot the gold and greenbacks began to show up, and by and by there was from three hundred to one thou-and dollars on which an official, called "the teller of the law," could count forty. When this limit was passed, human science was of about thirty, genteel and well edubrought to the assistance of the birds, catel, and he bet with a recklessness to astonish everybody. Somehow we all began to feel personally interested in his luck, and when he won we rejoiced as much as if he had agreed to divide up pro rata. In two hours he was two thousand dollars ahead, but then his luck changed and before midnight he was dead broke. Then his watch and ring and pin went, and he rose up as thoroughly cleaned out as a

to us, "I am much obliged for your kind words, and wish each one of you well. I have lost six hundred dollars intrusted to me to deliver to a party in New Orieans, and I shall not go any

He was out on deck like a flash, and were nearly all based on the principle we heard a splash in the water as we that "the teller of the law" should ran after him. None of us returned to the cabin. We sat down to talk it over, circumstances, between the intervals of and for an hour we felt bad-real bad. We erected a monument and carved an the fights. It will be readily underepitaph, as it were, and every man went to bed sad-hearted. Well, next morning, when the boat

reached Natchez, I tau across the Capother in the middle of the pit and "de-livering the cocks on their legs, beak to tain and remarked on the sad occur-

" See that chap?" he replied, pointing to a man climbing up the long hill.
Why, that looks like the very

"Certain it does, for it la!"

"But he went overboard!"
"Bosh! He tossed over a chair and then slipped down below!"

"And he didn't lose six hundred dol-

lars which wasi ntrusted--! "Lose nothing! He is a capper for the gamblers, and played to induce greenhorns to come in!" - Detroit Free

Colors.

Plomb, or lead, is the leading color at present, but lynx and beaver browns are largely shown in all imported goods. Bronze and moss greens have been in great favor all summer in Paris. and will be used here in combinations with red for autumn bonnets. 'Sphynx blue, which is always lead-color, and heliotrope with pansy colors, are also used by Parisiennes. Very dark blue is revived by English women, and has been adopted here by many women of quiet tastes who have hitherto worn black almost altogether. Pansy dresses of several purple shades, relieved by light yellow flowers in the bonnet and on the corsage, are refined in color, esgame-cocks have been killed in fights pecially when made of fine cashmeres enriched with velvet. Parisan red, chestnut brown, old blue, linnet brown, bright Orleans blue, and asperge, the green of asparagus, are among the new colors quoted by importers of millinery. -Harper's Bazar.

His Sight Was Failing.

He had been to a high-priced oculist about two dozen times to have his eyes operated on, and at his last visit the cculist remarked, confidently:

"You're getting along finely, sir, and you'll be all right in a few weeks." "I hope so, doctor, but I can't see now as well as I could at first."

"Oh, yes you can. There's a marked improvement." " But, doctor, I know better."

"You only think so." "Oh, no, I know."

"How do you know?"
"Why, doctor, when I first came, I could see quite a snug little sum to my credit in the bank, and I'll be hanged

if I can see a dollar there now. The doctor ceased his argument.

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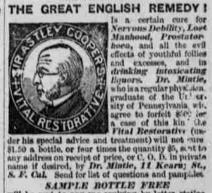
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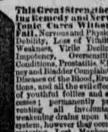
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