

### THE SONG OF THE TAJIL

The dove I bear you, dearest,  
Would make the prettiest tale,  
If I had a pen to write it  
The bill of a nightingale!  
And what should I have for paper?  
I know what would best:  
Each page should be a rose-leaf,  
A snowy white as your breast!  
And with such a pen and paper  
What ink should then be mine?  
Tears, when I wrote of my sorrow:  
When I wrote of my pleasure, wine!

R. H. Shadrack's Songs of the Mythes.

### THE REASON WHY.

Ask why I love the roses fair,  
And whence they come, and whose they were:  
They come from her, and not alone—  
They bring her sweetnes with their own.  
Or ask me why I love her so;  
I know not, this is all I know,  
These roses bud and bloom and twine  
As she round this fond heart of mine,  
And this is why I love the flowers:  
Once they were hers, they're mine—they're ours!

I love her, and they soon will die,  
And now you know the reason why.

### DID YOU—ANY OF YOU.

Did you ever go out promising  
your wife you would be home at half-past 9 or 10 o'clock, and get back next morning about 7?

Did you ever spend the night in defiance of the sacred promise made to your wife, drinking either whisky or brandy cocktails, in mint juleps, in punches, hot or cold, or any of the fashionable mixed drinks? or drinking wine and sucking those victorias, regalias—those blooded cigars that none but bloods buy, twenty-five cents a piece, fragrant with the flavor of Havana tobacco, the smoke curling above your head, cigar after cigar, drink after drink, joke after joke, had fellows well met; happy evening; adjourn in the morning; go home, not in the front door, like an honest man. Oh, no! Stealing through the alley [laughter] hoist the kitchen window, get through the window into the kitchen, pull off your boots, go up the steps upon the carpet with a tread lighter than a mouse, ashamed to wake your children, ashamed to wake your servants, ashamed to wake your wife, and crawl into bed with that lady—that bosom companion of yours—yours by God's law; the woman that you had sworn to love, honor and obey—and she wakes up with the room perfumed with whisky and tobacco emanating from your nostrils and your lips in a volume that would kill an alligator in the dead of Winter! [Laughter.] Now if you have, how did you feel when you came to your senses? How did you feel when you had slept off that drunken madness; got up and gone into the bath-room; put your head under the spout and turned that living stream of God's upon it, cooling your fevered brain? How do you feel? Do you feel like you had made a brute of yourself? Do you feel like you would never take another drink? Don't you think that your wife was little short of an angel if she asked you at breakfast if you would have a cup of coffee, and remain living under your roof for another hour? Now, turn the tables and suppose that the woman could get her rights—the right to vote; the right to play billiards; the right to play poker [laughter]; the right to bet against her; the right to spend her evenings at hotels; the right to go to the theater, by herself or invite some gentleman to go with her, with the right to do as you do—and she was to come home in the morning to you, cigar in her mouth, pretty drunk, staggering up the steps with her boots or her shoes off, waking you up, with all that flavor of whisky or tobacco on her breath, what would you do? Bring suit of divorce before you got your breakfast. [Laughter.] And yet this amiable part of God's creation, this noble man, this man made in the image of his Maker, gifted with intellect, with genius, with physical strength to control all other things created upon this world; this man with the genius to go down in the bowels of the earth and raze, up the ores and mould them up in the forms of beauty; this man with genius that invents the telegraph, the steam power, and the genius to build what I stood upon to-day and looked from over your city, the magnificent bridge that spans your river; this man with that power in him, gifts from God, that enables him to accomplish almost anything; this man who goes just as I have described, up to his home, and expects that his wife will overlook that night after night, and day after day—don't see beneath the smiles that she wears upon her face, in the hopes that she will yet win him back to higher and nobler purposes, the deep and ruinous trenches he is making in her wife's and mother's heart. He don't see

in the prattle of the little children helping their mother to hide from their father the mortification, the ruin he is bringing upon them.

### THE LEISURE TIME OF BOYS.

We would suggest to many parents who are perplexed with the difficulty of finding the wherewithal to amuse and interest their boys, to give their lads every opportunity of acquiring a mechanical trade. The industry and ingenuity of a boy of average ability, says the *Scientific American*, may easily be made to furnish him with a never-failing source of amusements of the best order. The boy who can produce or make something already begins to feel that he is somebody in the world, that achievement of a result is not a reward reserved for grown people only. And the education of mind, eye and hand, which the use of tools and mechanical appliances furnishes, is of a great and real value, beyond the good resulting from the occupation of leisure time. Having nothing to do is as great a snare to the young as to the grown; and no greater benefits can be conferred on youths than to teach them to convert time now wasted and often worse than wasted, into pleasant means of recreation improvement. The boy, whose time and mind are now occupied with marbles and lites, may be a Watt, a Morse or a Bessemer, in embryo; and it is certainly an easier matter to turn his thoughts and musings into a channel which shall give full scope their faculties. As to most boys the use of mechanical tools is the most fascinating of all occupations. As logic and mathematics have a value beyond accuracy in argument and the correct solution of problems, in that they teach men habit of using their reflecting powers systematically, so carpentry, turning and other arts are of high importance. These occupations teach boys to think, to proceed from initial causes to results, and not only to understand the nature and duty of the mechanical powers, but to observe their effect; and to acquire knowledge by actual experiment, which is the best way of learning anything. All the theories culled out of books leave an impression on the mind and memory which is slight compared with the practical experiences of the true mechanic. Our advice is, to all who have the great responsibility of the charge of boys: Give them a lathe, or set of carpenter's or even blacksmith's tools. Give their minds a turn toward the solid and useful side of life. You will soon see the result in increased activity of their thinking capabilities and the direction of their ideas toward practical results; and, still more obviously, in the avoidance of idle mischief and nonsense (to omit reference to absolute wickedness and moral degradation), which are, to a great extent, the pastime of the generation which is to succeed us.

### VARIETIES.

A Philadelphia gentleman advertises a soap that is destined to wipe out the national debt. There is probably some "fly" about it.

"Ah ladies," said an old epicure as he opened a bottle of wine, "what is more delightful than the popping of a champagne cork?" The popping of the question? unanimously cried the ladies.

You ought to acquire the faculty of being at home in the best society, said a fashionable aunt to an honest nephew. "I manage that easily enough," replied the nephew, "by staying at home with my wife and children."

A young lady engaged to be married, but getting sick of her bargain, applied to a friend to help her untie the knot before it was too late. "Oh certainly," he replied, "it's very easy to untie it now, while it is only a bean-knot."

The Detroit Free Press says: A Virginia sheriff asked a murderer if he wanted to make a speech on the gallows, and the man replied: "Guess not; it looks like rain, and I don't want to get wet; go on with the hanging."

All my own experience in life teaches me the contempt of cunning, not the fear. The phrase "profound cunning," has always seemed to me a contradiction in terms. I never knew a cunning mind which was not either shallow, or, on some points, diseased.—Mrs. Johnson.

Work is being energetically pushed forward on the road from the Seattle Coal Mines to Seattle. The iron rail is being forwarded to the east side of Lake Washington, and will soon be laid, and the barge building on Lake Union, will be completed within ten days. Next Monday the work of taking out coal and forwarding it to Seattle will be commenced, and in five weeks' time everything will be in readiness to take out regularly 150 tons a day.

A Salem man has a single blackberry vine on which is now a bushel of berries.

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