A BALLAD.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

O, she was a maiden of laughing eye, And she lived in a great garret cold and high, And he was a threadbare, whiskered beaux, And he lived in a cellar damp and low.

But the rosy boy of the cherub wing Hath many a shaft in his slender string, And the youth below and the maid above Were touched with the flashing darts of love.

And she would wake from her troubled sleep, O'er his tender billet doux to weep; Or stand like a statue cold and fair And gaze on a lock of his bright red hair. And he who was late so tall and proud,

With his step so firm and his laugh so loud, His beard grew long, his beard grew thin, And he pined in solitude o'er his gin. But one soft night in the month of June, As she lay in the light of the cloudless moon, A voice came floating soft and clear, To the starled maid's list'ning ear.

Oh! then from her creaking couch she sprung And her tender tresses back she flung, She looked for a window far below. And he stood forth, her whiskered beau. She did not pout with foolish frown,

But packed her trunk and hurried down, And there was her lover, tall and true, In his threadbare coat of brightened blue,

The star that rose in the evening shade Looked sadly down on the weeping maid; The sun that came in his morning pride Shed golden light over a laughing bride.

THE HEROINE OF THE PLAGUE.

How the great heart of the republic Sunny South! How the people bent to them up. catch the moaning of heart-broken moth-

'Help us, brothers and sisters, or we perish!" was the pained cry that came up from the stricken land. Who were their brothers and sisters?

Rather who were not? From the lakes of chilly Maine to the golden shores of the far Pacific-from the lakes of the North to the warm shores of the gulf-the men and women | precious to them as mine is to me. Keep of every race and creed responded to the call, and reaching out their full hands they shouted, through their tears:

"Keep heart, brothers and sisters, in And all gave with that noble readiness that made the gifts so soothing to the it. afflicted people; and all prayed as if the

death angel hovered over their own

cious lives in their hands, went down to no one could tell how or where. nurse the sick and bury the dead-went down never to return.

eral, in the excitement of battle, a thou-

sand swords would flash from their scab- | stairs. bards, and a thousand heroic voices would shout: "Who will command the supply ship,

and take relief to the people dying in the Ten thousand men heard the request, and the silence that followed it was broken by one man's clarion voice:

"And who are you?" The answer was a name unheard before, but fame caught it up, and death gave it immortality.

The river down which he sailed will be dry, and the land in which he sleeps | be taken, Mary Brent again looked back washed into the great deep, before the at the door. name of Lieutenant Benner passes away, At first she could not credit her eyes; or the lesson of his grand heroism cease and when she did realize the horrid to affect mankind.

spirit as sublime, if not so conspicuous students, and the race that so grandly from the table as he approached her. proved, in the gloomy nights of deserted, "Wretch!" she cried, her courage and

God, for the broader, deeper love that

on the spires and domes of busy Cincin- captain. nati, read the news from the fever disthat always precedes action.

The only daughter of a rich, widowed mother—the daughter of a man, who in have or not, and I don't care," he gloomier days, had gone down to the laughed. Southland and fallen, there were everydown to stricken Memphis.

"To go, my darling, is to die. You are all that is left me, Mary!" sobbed

"The God of the widow and the father- collapsed heap. less will protect you and me. To negow and make wretched a century of life," said Mary pushing back her mother's gray hair, and kissing the dear, smooth nursed the captain to life, and how she, brow. worn out with watching, was stricken

And so Mary Brent's sense of duty down. prevailed over maternal love, and she went to Memphis.

She went alone; but the rudest men jaws of death. hearing of her mission raised their hats and cheered her; and lips to which the people of Memphis, and, in telling

miliar," said the doctor to whom she reported. "Return, my child, or it may be too late."

"I came to work and cannot turn back. I came under no blind impulse. Show me the suffering; tell me what to do, and let me go to work," replied Mary.

be Married—Don't." It is said that the author, Douglas Jerrold, received £5 for

from her enthusiasm, and the news of a word. her coming reached the fevered suffer- Costly ers like a cool breeze from Northern

care the little ones so soon to be orphans.

working without rest for ten days. "Certainly, doctor! I have a good

Captain Parker was stricken down in

convalesced and he was alone. Mary Brent found him on a mattress. in the corner of the room, a few wooden

chairs being the only furniture. He was a fine-looking man of thirty, with a face that must have beamed with throbbed with sympathy when the news, noble generosity before the fever flushed matters have gone too far; the wedding with a daily increasing force, went and distorted it, and the dark eyes that must take place." His decision cost him through the land, that the yellow fever still retained their intelligent expression, a life-long regret. was ravaging the fairest portions of the sion, despite the fatal lustre that lit A gentleman in

He was evidently surprised to see a ers whose little ones had been torn from | beautiful girl entering the wretched | riage had been made. The cards were their breasts by the remorseless Herod apartment; and the low, musical voice out, and the wedding was expected to be danger to which she was exposed.

"You should not be here, Miss Brent -there are others who should face the danger," said the captain.

"There are none whose lives are not as She brought in a bed and other furni-

the yellow harvest field of death! Our ture, got such supplies of ice and medifortunes and our prayers are yours!" cine as were needed, and transformed the room as if a fairy's wand had touched

There are human birds of prey who fatten on the afflictions of their racerobbers on the battle-field at night, and It was noble for the poor man to give | ghouls, that plunder the dead where

One night, when Captain Parker lay unconscious, his eyes closed and his "Who will lead the charge on yonder | breath fluttering in the uncertain scale of life and death, Mary, who was sitting If this request were made by a gen- beside him, with her back to the door, heard a heavy step on the creaking

> She' turned her head, and seeing nothing, she placed her fingers again on the Captain's wrist and watched his face. On a table between her and the door lay the captain's gold watch, and some articles of jewelry of her own that she had taken off.

> The door opened noiselessly, and a huge form, with a slouched hat and a bearded face, came in. In one hand he carried a knife, and the other was extended to sieze the booty on which his red eyes were fastened.

Another step and it would be in his possession; but before that step could

presence, she felt a dreard such as had But others showed a self-sacrificing never before possessed her. "Not a whisper or I will kill you!" -priests and ministers, sisters of mercy said the man, striding toward her with and sisters of humanity, doctors and uplifted knife, and seizing the articles

dying Memphis, how white a soul a self-possession coming back. "Leave black body could contain. those things where you found them and Thank God, the trial is over! Thank get back, or I will shout for help."

dod, for the broader, deeper love that "Shout as loud as you please, my

beauty! It will be your death-knell and And Mary Brent, in her happy home, his!" said the man, coming nearer, and "Man, have you no soul, that you rarely are.

> eves fastened upon his. "Soul! Wa-al, don't know whether I

Then he began backing towards the thing earthly to keep her back. But all door. He would certainly have backed earthly considerations were weak before out, had not the doctor at that moment the heaven given impulse that drew her appeared in the same opening and taken in the situation.

The doctor was a stalwart man, armed with a heavy cane, and this cane he Mrs. Brent when her daughter had an- brought down with such crushing force on the ghoul's head that he fell in a

The articles were taken from the man, lect what I feel is duty now would shad- and he was sent to jail, where he after- noses of the party, and then went under wards died of the plague. It would take long to tell of how Mary

> Captain Parker became a nurse again, and Mary Brent was snatched from the This story will become a tradition to

The weary doctors drew fresh courage his ten words of advice, or half a pound

Costly as it may seem, and we believe it the highest price ever paid for ten words, the advice would, if heeded, be and dying men turned on their cots to even if paid for out of their own blesss her, and mothers, with the death- pockets. It is but uttering a commondamp on their brows, consigned to her place to say that not all marriages are made in heaven, or that many who marry away from the town to put up a political ments; it is nothing to you whether they in haste repent at leisure. Yet these job to the good of the country. We are true or false." "Captain Parker, who came from Mo- in haste repent at leisure. Yet these bile to help us, is taken down. Can Miss truisms seem to have lost their sense, Brant take charge of the case?" asked | through neglect to heed them. But the one of the doctors, after Mary had been | increasing business of divorce courts | emphasizes them.

Foolish young women, when cautioned captain's address," said Mary. mosely about putting impediments "to the marriage of true minds." They there they lay. Houses became common | would show better sense and much more property; the rich often dying in hovels | principle should they refuse to marry, and tents, and the poor in splendid man- even on the eve of the wedding, the man whom they then learn is unfit to call a pure woman "my wife." There can be an old frame house, not far from the de- no "marriage of true minds," when the pot. The other occupants had died or grave of a woman's happiness yawns be- with our old enthusiasm, but we answer side the altar.

he is not the man for me to marry," said heart and grinds it into the grave of you and your family."

a daughter, a day or two before her wed buried hopes?—[Boomerang. I met him some days after. "Well, a daughter, a day or two before her wed buried hopes? - Boomerang.

"It is too late now, my daughter.

A gentleman in Washington was made of sterner stuff, and had, withal, better sense. The announcement of the marin which she addressed him, with her one of the "events" of Washington sosoft, cool palm resting on his forehead, ciety. One week before the day, the banishing for the moment his feeling of father, learning that the young man, torture and his keen appreciation of the | though well connected, was an unworthy and disreputable character, published a card announcing that "in consequence of recent disclosures" the nuptials would

not take place.
A daughter's happiness should outweigh all the suggestions of false pride good heart, dear captain. You are young and social timidity. Better was it for his daughter to be stared at as a nine-ing," she said with forced cheerfulness. day's wonder than to stare for life at the skeleton in the house .- Youth's Com-

Bill Nye's Forest.

Some years ago we had a large sum of lay idly in our coffers, we decided to purchase a fine building site in northof his pittance, generous in the rich man | plague and famine rule. Memphis, with | east Laramie, improve it and sell it at a to give of his abundance, admirable for all its heroism, was not without them; large profit. Being considerably struck the busy man to lay aside his work and fierce creatures, whose habitations no with the primeval beauty and solemn give his best efforts to gathering aid; but one could tell, who prowled out at night magnificence of the evergreen, we deit was God-like in those who left secure and kept in the shadows, while they cided at first to secure some spruces, and and happy homes, and, taking their precious lives in their hands, went down to no one could tell how or where. envy and admiration of the West. Acting upon this impulse, we purchased a load of this vegetable, setting out the the trees on two sides of the plantation, and digging an irrigation ditch two hundred and sixty-four feet long, by which to water them. For two weeks the irri gation ditch failed to connect with the central office, and we carried water to the trees through the agency of a mechapical arrangement known as the patent pail.

All these trees died of pinkeye but We then sent East and purchased one hundred seedlings of the Norway spruce variety, and fringed the ditch with them, protecting them from the hot sun by south side. These trees staggered along through the summer, and when winter set in were pale and emaciated, but cheerful and hopeful for the future. The

winter was an unusually severe one, and toward spring a large, lonely cow, known throughout the West as Dr. Tanner, in an unguarded moment got over into the inclosure, and ate the entire forest. We had almost decided at that time to abandon timber culture in Wyoming, but when vernal spring opened we de-cided to get some choice trees from the adjacent mountains, and make one grand

final effort. One pleasant day we con-sented to make a picnic excursion into the Black Hills with a small party of friends, and while others packed the large lunch-baskets, we put into the barouche a spade and some other burgthat looked down from the Walnut Hills | nodding his head at the unconscious | lar's tools. The picnic was not a financial or social success. Picnics very

tricts with the sympathetic earnestness | would do this thing?" she asked, her | A bottle of glycerine, that had been brought by one of the young ladies to protect her hands from the rigorous climate, got broken, and worked itself into the sponge cake, and a pint of camphor got mixed up with the pie. A rain-

skirmished around and gathered small spruce trees.

It was a glorious day for all. The sun came out just long enough to peel the All that had been brought along to eat was spoiled, except some candy with mottoes on the side. When you have been riding all day in the vigorous air There is no doubt in the world that of the mountains, and have to fill up yourself with a drink of warm water and never be thine," it tends to hush the but we will attend to that little matter and cheered her; and lips to which prayer was a stranger, invoked on the beautiful, heroic girl the blessings of Heaven.

"You are unaccustomed to fatigue, Miss Brent is now Mrs. Captain "You are unaccustomed to fatigue, Miss Brent, and could not bear the horwith which we have grown so far "I which we far a depart the glid whith the delight with the people of Memphis, and, in telling the the delight with the people of Memphis, and, in telling the delight with the glid with the leleist and make people get acquainted with the their of which we have grown so far "I which we start the chief power of wealth is to that the chief power of a hundred it creates more wants tha

Several years ago there appeared in the London Punch the following bit of wit: "Advice to a Young Man about the Married—Don't"

There are two prolific causes of crime in this country. One is rum, and the Other is the picnic.

But we define to the following bit of the Married—Don't "

She went out on her mission of mercy; cheap to many a youth of both sexes, at a salary to replace trees, and haul taining statements which he and they away the deceased. The new forest thrived during the sum-they said:
"We are responsible for the statemer until August, when we were called

were absent two weeks, and while away a neighbor, who was erecting a croquet lawn, composed of wild buffalo grass and own name?" a velvety sweep of red sand, turned the humid contents of our ditch into his mosely about putting impediments "to | trying to promote the guileless game of | him so.

croquet. On our return, the sombre green of our little wilderness had changed to a dazzling sorrel color that looked like the big Michigan fire.

People semetimes ask us this season why we do not go into the tree business family. them rudely and harshly, for who can "Father, I don't love -, and I know | chat gayly of that which tears out his

Jesse James' Mother.

An exchange says that "the James

boys had a morose and ugly disposition." This may be regarded as authentic. The | ters I knew to be untrue. They were James boys were not only morose, but angry, and I expected to receive notice, they were at times irritable. Jesse James | but I have not received it yet." at different times killed over fifty men. This shows that he must have been his situation. After awhile he called entire village unless he felt cross and taciturn naturally. There should have been a post mortem examination of M. James to detail of animal spirits something had happened. "Well, Mr. —," I said, "have you had your dismissal?"

"No." said have you have you have to detail the same had your dismissal?" James to determine what the matter was with him. We were in favor of a post mortem examination of Mr. James twelve years ago, but there seemed to be a feel- vacant, and they have put me in it." ing of reluctance on the part of the authorities about holding it. No one seemed to doubt the propriety of such a movement, but there was a kind of vague customer would not deceive them, and hesitation by the proper officials on ac-count of his mother. There has been a vast amount of thoughtfulness manifested by the Missouri people on behalf of Jesse's mother. For nearly twenty years money that we were not using, and as it lay idly in our coffers, we decided to ination of Mr. James, because they knew that his mother would feel wretched and gloomy when she saw her son with his vitals in one market basket, and his vertebræ in another. Detective Pinkerton was the most considerate. At first he would hold an autopsy on Mr. James an aged lady, sweet-faced and gentle of mein, accompanied by her daughter. At the forgotten pipe. An explanation was one of the stations there entered an in order, and after a hearty laugh, the right away, but it consumed so much that he postponed Jesse's "post mortem" for a long time. He also hoped that after the lapse of years maybe Mr. James would become enfeebled so that he could steal up behind him some night and stun him with a Chicago pie, but Jesse seemed vigorous up to a late date, and out of respect for I is aged mother the Chicago sleuth hounds of justice have spared him. Detectives are sometimes considered hard-hearted and unloving in their natures, but this is not the case. Very few of them can bear to witness the shedding of blood, especially their own blood. Sometimes they find it necessary to kill a man in order to restore peace to the country, but they very rarely kill a man like James. Still there el about a good deal, much to some folks means of wide shingles placed on the are lots of mean, unthinking people who annoyance, because I'm so old. But do not give the detectives credit for this. - Bill Nye's Boomerang.

What False Teeth Did.

Dr. C. Graham furnishes the particulars of an interesting case which recently fell under his notice, and which should stand as a warning to people with false teeth. A young married woman living near the corner of Wood street and Blue Island avenue, awakened from a sound sleep one night about five months ago and complained of a most severe pain in her throat, which almost prevented from either swallowing or breathing. A dozen doctors were applied to, but she got no relief, and finally her silment became so bad that the whisper in which she spoke was nearly inaudible and it was only with the greatest pain that she could swallow the smallest quantities of milk and beef tea. She had lost thirty-five pounds, and to add to her thirty-five pounds are thirty-five pounds. afflictions she was taken to child-bed. The little one, as might be expected from the condition of the mother, died in a short time of inanition. In a manner quite accidental while making an examination of the throat with a common tongue depresser, Dr. Graham found a foreign body lodged in the cosophagus, or gullet, and applying a cosophagus, or gullet, and applying a with a grain of sense to start it, is this tities and is made up on this side in great quantities.

The little one, as might be expected young again, as she commented upon the superior smartness of her aged satisfied with a stipend so small that an American woman would soorn to touch. Of the material imported, France supplies half the trade, England and Germannay divide the rest. The raw material finds its way on this side in great quantities and is made up on this side of the with a grain of sense to start it, is this storm came up also, and created a lunch basket full of chaos, which we poured out under a tree.

While the rest of the party gathered wood violets and a rare exogenous plant unknown to them as poison oak, we then as poison oak, we thave the as a poison oak the as a poison oak the as a poison oak t an examination of the throat with a com-The poor woman never knew what ailed her, and had supposed that the teeth had been mislaid about the house. The condition of the throat was such that she had no use for them, and therefore she had a cloud followed by a cold rain and hail.

All that had been brought along to get

a lozenge on which is printed "I can telling others what they ought to do, lovely"!"

They Kuew His Worth.

faithful clerk who was tempted, but fol- of that delightful place. of thought.

Our trees were brought home, and planted in the same old hole where we had been in the habit of killing ever-By this time unemployed men had ing clerk in a flourishing house of busi- all they feel. learned to look to us for steady ness. His employers had begun to direct work. One man wanted us to hire him him to write letters to customers conknew to be false. He had objected and

> I said to him, "Did they sign the letters, or ask you to write them in your

As soon as the question left my lips I saw that if there were a difference, both

corps of nurses organized. Give me the to think long and well, talk lachry- luxuriant gravel patch, where he was would be wrong, and I hastened to tell He said, "I have to sign them with my

name, pro Messrs. Blank."
I said, "Your case is clear; you must decline to do it." He said, "Then I shall be dismissed;" and after a pause, "I have a wife and

I replied, "My dear friend, this is a trial of faith and principle; you must do right, and trust to God to take care of

He replied, "I am still in my situation; I had an interview with the partners and told them I could not write let-

Mr. -," I said, "how are you getting

Months passed, and he remained in

"What then?" "A very confidential post in their service, with a higher salary, has fallen On second thought these unprincipled men had come to the conclusion was too valuable to be lost.—[Ex.

Sprightly Old Women.

The longevity of our Cape neighbors is proverbial, as is also their pluck and wood wherewith to make the fire, while resolution. These qualities had an the perspiring fathe, was designing in amusing illustration at one of the Old his perplexed mind some kind of scaf-Colony passenger trains a few days since. fold whereupon his wife could stand to The car was well filled, and comfortably cook the frugal meal. But his ideas resting well towards the center was an were overthrown by the sudden appearalert smart old lady, quick in speech bewildered Englishman was thoroughy and movement. Taking a seat directly initiated into the mysteries of the Ameri-in front of the first old lady, whom she can ways of putting up a stove.— Chatquietly surveyed for a few moments, she | ham (Ont.) Tribune. commenced:

"Going far, marm?" "To New Bedford," was the reply. "Is your home there, marm?" "No, it is on the cape, I am to vi it a daughter in New Bedford." "May I ask your age?"

"Certainly, 84 years."
"La, you show it. Now, I've just my way home. There's a few things I and then I'm off for another visit. I travwhen I can't take care of myself I'll stop. I can hold my own yet with conductors and baggage-masters, and don't take none of their sass, though I don't find much of that on this road. Now, how old do you take me to be?"

"I cannot guess; how old are you?"

"Ninety-eight—going on ninety-nine.
And I say when I can't take care of cent. are said to do this. Of course the "I cannot guess; how old are you?" breathing. So, there, now. But I get out here. Name? Yes; it's Nancy Randall, and I live at Marion. Come and see me. I'm at home part of the time. Good bye."

And with a nod and a smile the young woman of nearly a century, passed quickly down the aisle with the step of trusted conductors, really appeared

universally used and senseless phrase! It is applied to anything and everything.
It seems to stand instead of ideas, of sentiment, of appreciation, and of common sense.

listen! The first words that salute you of the young gentleman's pets. This sleep.

There is no doubt in the world that everbody ought to reform, and as for "Look at these ferns and bright leaves ship. He mounted his pinto horse and ourselves-well, we are very busy in on the wall. Are not they 'perfectly went in search of the transgressor. The

With these young women, everything that isn't perfectly "horrid" and "awful" ceeded in throwing a lasso over his is "perfectly lovely," from a statue of gentle form, when off went Joe on his

ted. But her exclusive use of this phrase seemed almost intolerable, before A clergyman relates the experience of a | we had seen half the spring time glory

case of conscience. He was correspond- those who allow it to express for them

Children catch it who cannot speak plain, and pronounce a doll or plaything "perfly lubly." Whenever I hear it, I always want to exclaim, "O girls, do stop! Better take

up the forcible language of your brothers, than weaken all you say by this meaningless, worn-out sentence."

Girls ought to be able to talk well on current topics—books, new and old, and all that interests their brothers. But do they show themselves competent to carry on a conversation that will stimulate and refresh those they meet? Good talkers never fail to interest and to charm; but a young woman whose ideas are only broad enough to be expressed in the words "awful," "horrid," and "perfectly lovely," will hardly be classed as one of them .- [K. A. S. in Youth's Companion.

How he Put up the Stove.

A short time ago an English emigrant

family arrived in -, and being des-

titute of everything, a few kind-hearted people gave them sundry articles to help them go to housekeeping, and among other things a stove. The donor how-ever, forgot to send along the necessary pipe. The day being cold the first thing which the father of the wandering flock turned his attention to was the making of a fire. With grateful eyes he surveyed the stove (the first he had ever seen) and then glancing at the stove-pipe hole in the chimney which was about two feet from the ceiling, wondered how the smoke could get up and out of that small hole. His eyes soon rested upon some hooks in the ceiling, which the former tenant had used for drying apples thereon, and he naturally came to the conclusion that they were intended to hang the stove upon. There was no time to be lost, and so with the aid of chairs and table, and a deal of exertion, the able-bodied man lifted the stove up so that the stove-pipe hole, which happened to be at the side of the stove, rested nicely in the hole in the chimney, while his better half lashed it to the afore-mentioned hooks with ropes which came around their scanty luggage.

Hair.

Not less than 90 per cent. of the women and 5 per cent. of the men of this country wear more or less false hair. The enormous consumption of the artificial and natural product suggests the fact, fearful but true, that nine women been visiting for a few weeks and am on out of every ten about the street, in the church or on the cars, charming or ugly want to see to there and straighten out, to a line, have on a wig or a weft, a bandeau or a prepared net, bangs or waves, arranged at the hairdresser's.

Some people think that blondes never grow grayheaded. The fact is, one third of white shreds may be mingled with such hair and few will notice it. The same proportion of blonde-headed people turn gray as those with any other colored hair.

myself I'll stop travelling; when I can't greater proportion of these people are see to thread a needle I'll stop sewing, white haired people. A white head is often, though not always, a sign of trou-The dresser is more than often amused

by requests from the country for "cold water frizzes." These, of course, com-prise an article which will curl easily by application of water, and are easily supplied. Curly hair has been the fashion for a year or more.

with a grain of sense to start it is this tities, and is made up on this side of the water. The business is young in this country.

LASSOED A LION.-Joe Dixon, the young son of J. H. Dixon, of Skull Val-Go into the rooms of the young ladies in our colleges for women, where you expect something better, and where something better should be heard. But ley, has been diligent for years in rearing a few head of sheep. Two or three nights since a mountain lion got into Foe's fold and succeeded in killing three search was not long when Joe found the