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INTERPRETATION.

We long for a peace that is lasting,
Like fishermen ceaselessly casting,
Their nets in the gulf of despair,
We draw from deep waters of sorrow
Dark wrecks of old failure and fear,
And out of sea silence we borrow
The storm that will never come near.

Faith speeds past the footsteps of Duty,
And halts at the door of a tomb;
Thought pierces the source of all beauty
And returns unto dust—tis the doom
Of each man-child to strive and to won-
der;

To plan for some positive gain;

And only find mysteries under;

All life, be it pleasure or pain.

Lo, in realms of the mind there is, treas-
ure

For toilers who dwell in content;

There is truth that no science can meas-
ure,

And the fearless are never forsaken;
There is light when earth shadows are

falling.

There's reward for the deeds that are

done—

Where envy crowned virtues are calling;

"Through faith is thy victory won!"

stable boy and a three-legged terrier dog.

"From boarding school I went to college, where I stayed three years. My allowance was so scant that I would not have been able to cut much of a swell if I had wished to. I believe my sole ambition was to get through college so as to see what life had for me before.

What would she think? There was only one interpretation—that he wanted to see her alone. Well, so he did, and he would ask her to-day.

He walked restlessly up and down the little reception room, counting the speech till the ring of bells made him stop abruptly. In the middle of the room, with his eyes fixed on the door. It opened in an instant, and a dainty little maid stood framed in the doorway. Her brown eyes met Tom's bravely and happily, and before he knew what he was doing he had opened his arms and she had come straight to him.

"Hello, dear," she whispered, laughing merrily. "Is that all the love-making you know? Just one word—dear.

And you never wrote even that one all these months. How do you expect a girl to know you love her when you act so? I shouldn't have if I hadn't read all Dick's letters. Dear old Dick! He told me all you had said about me, and of course I knew."

An hour later Tom was sitting on the divan holding Marguerite's hand. Dick sat on the other side, and Mr. and Mrs. Upton had chairs drawn near, and all formed a happy family group, but not one word had Tom uttered of his proposal.

"Uncle Sam's Midnight Land Deal.

One of the best bargains ever made by Uncle Sam was that of the purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867. The Czar had been most friendly toward our country during the Civil War, and when Uncle Sam offered to buy his immense possessions in northwestern America he gave the matter favorable consideration. He had planted fort and trading posts in many parts of this territory and had got to calling it the "outpost of St. Petersburg," but he knew that Uncle Sam was growing into one of the foremost rulers of the earth and he wished to keep his good will. Then, too, Alaska would be difficult to defend in war time, and the Czar had always made a point of keeping his domains joined closely, annexing only such territory as lay directly upon his borders. So, after he had thought it over, he offered to sell for \$10,000,000. True to his dickerling instinct, Uncle Sam held out for \$5,000,000. "Split the difference," proposed the Czar; "say seven and a half." "Seven millions," insisted Uncle Sam. "Done," decided the Czar, as lightly as though it had been a pair of old shoes. The Russian Fur Company, however, wanted \$200,000 for its interest in the territory, and Uncle Sam agreed to pay it.

Nothing remained but the signing of the treaty, and this was done at midnight on March 26, 1867, at Washington.

Uncle Sam's Secretary, Mr. Seward, was playing whist in his parlor that night when the Czar's representative, Minister Stoekel, was ushered in.

"I have a dispatch, Mr. Seward, from my government by cable. The Czar

gives his consent to the cession. To-

morrow, if you like, we will sign the treaty."

Mr. Seward laid down his cards.

"Why wait until to-morrow, Mr. Stoekel? Let us make the treaty to-night."

"But you have no clerks, and my secretaries are scattered about town."

"Never mind that," replied Mr. Seward.

"If you can muster your secre-

taries before midnight you will find me awaiting you at the Department of State."

And so at midnight light was streaming from the windows of the Depart-

ment of State, and the place was busy

with writers, secretaries and engrossers.

At 4 o'clock, in the morning the treaty was finished—engrossed, signed, sealed and ready for sending to the President and the Senate. And the next day the Senate ratified the transaction, and the immense country of Alaska, with its hidden gold, passed within the limits of the United States for the price of two warships."

Nine Men's Morris.

This interesting little game is played by two persons on a board marked

with the diagram here shown, and

buttons, beans or grains of corn of two

colors may be used as men.

Each player has nine pieces, none of which are on the board at the opening of the game.

The players take turns in placing

their men, one at a time, at the points

where the lines meet each other, and

after all have been put on in moving

them from one spot to the next in any

direction along the lines. Each player's object, both in placing the men and

moving them, is to form a row of three of his own pieces and whenever this

is done he may take from the board one of his opponent's pieces, but he must not disturb a row of three if there is any other than he can take.

He who takes off all the hostile pieces wins.

Sometimes when a player has lost all

his men but three he is allowed to

"hop"—that is, to play a man to any

vacant spot on the board. The player

must avoid crowding his men together

and try to place them on or near the

corners of the board, at the same time

trying to block his opponent as well as

to get his own men into line. When

possible it should be arranged to make

more than one line in successive moves

when by moving one man backward

and forward two lines can alternately

be made and broken.

How Animals Rank in Wisdom.

The monkey is the most intelligent

animal. Poodle dogs come next; then

in order the Indian elephant, bear, lion,

tiger, cat and otter. Ants, bees and

spiders are more intelligent than

horses and goats, and the wild rabbit

has considerably more brain power

than the camel. Tame rabbits come

almost last in the list, and have less

intelligence than the frog. The lowest

form in the animal school is occupied

by the nautilus, octopus, python, tame

pigeon, deer, sheep, buffalo and bison.

And Tom fell into a haze of dream-

ing till Martin timidly announced din-

The next evening Tom dressed care-

fully, and walked slowly to the Up-

tons'. He walked by the house once,

but coming back, he spied Dick at an

upper window, and with a long-drawn

breath and a tightening of the whole

nervous system, he ran up the steps

and rang the bell.

The man ushered him in and he ask-

ed for Miss Upton. He had not meant

to ask for her, but was rehearsing his

proposal, and that was the way it be-

gan. The man was gone, anyhow, and

so couldn't be helped. Dick would

probably come down when he saw the

card, even if he hadn't seen him from

the window, so "it" would be delayed for an hour.

Perhaps he wouldn't ask her to-night.

It might be too soon; he would see how

she received him. There was no hurry;

she wouldn't be going West again soon.

He had never asked for her alone before.

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one interpretation—that he wanted to see her alone. Well, so he did, and he would ask her to-day.

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The Czar gave the matter to King Henry VII, a young man appeared in Ireland, announced himself as Edward Plantagenet and claimed the right to the English throne. Some discontented noblemen took up his cause, formally crowned him, proclaimed him "King Edward VI," and set out toward London with 8,000 followers to make good his heirship.

The rebellion lasted until the town of Stoke was reached.

The rebel forces met an army sent out

against them by King Henry, opposed

to very much need having was not

worth hosing. But destroying weeds is

not the whole work of the weeder.

To break up and pulverize the crust after

a rain is the most effective way to use

the dews and rainfall, and the nitrogen

which is concentrated and tends to

"pack" in the stomach. Bran is cool-

ing and can be used in almost any rea-

sonable quantity. It is a food rich in

protein and contains a large amount of

nitrogenous element of fertility in soils.

Wheat is known to be extremely hard

on soil, and the chemist has found