THE REST THAT FOLLOWS PAIN.

The night has come, and the starlight
Falls on the restless sea
Like a gleam of hope through the darkness
Of a weary doubt to me.

I see the foam of the billow
Flash like the shining rain,
Then fall into silence and shadow,
Like the rest that follows pain.

O wonderful, beautiful billow,
With your changing shadow and shine,
Clasping the stars in your bosom,
I think your life is like mine.

Like mine, reaching through darkness
From the restless, moaning sea,
Pleading with ceaseless endeavor
For a life that can never be.

You clasp your mantle, O billow,
With gems from the brow of night;
I grasp, through shadowy future,
Sweet rays of heavenly light.

Oh, life of a ceaseless endeavor;
Oh, wave of a troubled sea;
Star of the weary night-watch,
Beacon of faith to me.

O heaven, with dowers of promise;
O earth, with travail and care;
Soul of God's mighty conception,
Peace on the brow of despair.

I stand by the surging ocean—
The starlight falls on the foam,
And a feeling of rest comes o'er me,
Like a wanderer nearing his home.

HOME TALKS.

The irrepressible servant question comes again to the front. Theories and speculations do little good, when the stubborn fact remains that female help is becoming scarcer and more difficult to obtain year by year. The independent American girl who formerly "went out to help" in families on a social and intellectual equality with herself, now wends her way to the shop and factory. The Irish, Norwegian and Swedish maidens have taken her place, but the brightest and most capable, of the last especially, are rapidly learning sewing and dressmaking. Ask them why, and they invariably say that the work is so hard they cannot stand it. They break down repeatedly; and it must be granted that the kind of housework which, in a few months breaks down the hardy young Swedish women, who in their own country were accustomed to heavy field labor, must certainly be very arduous. It should be remembered that housework is not now what it was thirty or even ten years ago. Some kinds of work have generally gone out of the household, like butter and cheese making; but into their places are endless complication in methods of cooking, serving, laundrying, etc., has come. In a small and innocent looking house containing a small family, there is work enough to occupy the time of two servants if the establishment is kept up in "style," as most of them aim to be. The first and greatest reason why there is so much trouble about the servant question is that the work is too hard for any woman to perform long without giving out. This is what has driven American girls out of the kitchen.

They are neat, handy and intelligent, but they could not stand it; and, fortunately for themselves, they have had sense and independence to get out of it. There has been a great deal of senseless talk, emanating principally from men who know little about the practical aspects of the subject, bemoaning the fact that American girls desert their rightful sphere of pleasant and profitable household labor to exhaust themselves in factories and shops, while pleasant places are waiting for them and gentle mistresses are holding out welcoming hands. Now all this sounds very plausible, but there is no truth in it. Each department of shop or factory work is simply in itself, and is immensely easier than housework in its present complicated condition. The factory girl works hard 8 or 10 hours a day, but the rest of her time is her own to rest, walk, read, or amuse herself as she will, and so with the shop girl; while the servant girl usually rises at 4 or 5 o'clock in the morning and is at the call of the mistress and other members of the family until 9 or 10 at night, having only such leisure even in the evening, as is granted by the mistress upon earnest application. Her work is not distinctly laid out for her, as it is in any other vocation; but she must be at the persoual beck and nod of half a dozen people every day, besides submitting, as a rule, to unjust criticism and fault finding.

Women are worse served than men, also, because, in their heretofore cramped and unbusinesslike life, they have failed to learn the common business principles on which a man employs another to do his work for him. If the work is well done, that is enough; if poorly, the workman is discharged—he is not retained, followed about, nagged and scolded from morning till night. The American girl would work in the kitchen, if she were required to do the work of only one woman, and that within reasonable hours, and if she were treated as well in the household as in the shop.

This is not to be construed as pointing to the other extreme which has occasionally appeared in print of late—that of placing the servant on a social equality with the lady of the house. A writer in the Woman's Journal went so far the other day as to declare that she would have no girl" in her house whom she could not introduce to her company, seat at her table, and treat as a social equal in every respect. This kind of talk quickly becomes the catchword of the ignorant, and easily obscures the truth. The Declaration of Independence says that all men are created free and equal. So they are in respect to the personal rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; but in a social and intellectual sense no law or declaration under the sun can make some people equal or companionable. The ordinary servant girl is not socially or intellectually the equal of the educated and refined lady. It is possible, in this country, for one who has been a servant girl to go to school, educate herself, use the means of culture as rapidly as she can attain them, and rise to a plane higher than her mistress ever occupied; but by that time she would have found other and more congenial and remunerative employment than is to be found in the kitchen. There is no objection to any one's rising as high as she can, but as long as a girl is a servant it plays mischief with both her and her mistress to prate about an impossible social equality between them. What an idea that a lady must take for a companion a girl simply because she pays her for doing her work! Men do not do so. If a man hires a gardener, a coachman, or a salesman, he does not necessarily invite him to his dinners, balls or parties. The wages, with courteous treatment, are supposed to be a fair equivalent for the work done.

So it should be with women. But, setting the question of social equality aside, there is another grave reason why ladies do not wish servants to sit at their table or be always in the family circle. A servant is not a natural member of the family. At table and by the fireside family matters are discussed and plans matured. To have another party present throws restraint over the family circle, or if they talk freely they may be sure that all they say will be reported at the next house. Family jars and skeletons should never be exhibited in this way. The family should be by itself when it chooses, and it never should give up this privilege by hiring someone to do the work.

The work of the average household should be simplified or more servants should be employed to do it. While the work should be laid out and supervised by the mistress, the girl should be left to work in her own way, as long as results are good. Sharp reproof and continual raging are irritating to any girl. There ought to be certain hours agreed upon during the day and evening which the girl shall have for her own, during which she is at liberty to do as she pleases without call or intrusion. The factory or shop girl has her hour at noon and her evening. Sometime during the day the servant should have as much, and at a regular specified time. Without such intervals of withdrawal and repose no girl can long stand to "work out." This could be arranged in individual cases according to the needs of individual households, and the mere recognition of the rightfulness of such a need would do much to win our smart American girls back into the field of American housework. Girls should also have neat and comfortable quarters assigned them. The position of servant would be less galling than now if one were sure of a room which has facilities for heating. A servant is a better servant who is able to have a bath in a warm room, and who is not obliged to sleep where the water freezes in the ewer. Thoughtfulness on the part of the mistress for a girl's comfort goes far toward the securing of faithful and efficient service. Given comfortable quarters, kind treatment, a generous interest on the part of the mistress for the well being of the maid, and the promt payment of fair wages for a fair amount of work, few girls would think about the mooted question of social equality—they would prefer the social companionship of their own age and class.

But the servant girls are growing scarcer, and when, with such a regime, good service cannot be secured, there is still a way out of the difficulty, and in some instances it is the best possible. Let the housewife put out the washing, baking, and if need be, the sewing, and do the rest herself, training her daughters to help her and to learn the womanly art of housekeeping.

Captain Mayne Reid.

A dispatch from London announces the death of Captain Mayne Reid, the well known novelist, after a short illness, at his London residence. He was a native of the north of Ireland. He was born in 1818 and was descended from one of the pioneers of the "Ulster Plantations." His father was a Presbyterian clergyman, and he fondly hoped that his son might follow in his footsteps. With that end in view he gave him a theological education and destined him for the church. It would have been far easier for the father to have tamed a tiger than to have controlled young Reid's inclination for adventure. The boy's brain was full of romance. He thirsted after travel and deeds of daring. The prairie was more to his taste than the pulpit. One day in 1838 he threw away his books and started for Mexico. On his arrival in New Orleans he made direct for the haunts of the red man, and hunted and traded among the Indians of the Red river country and those of the Missouri. This wild kind of life delighted the young Irishman. He became almost an Indian himself. He developed immense strength, could run like a deer and was a crack shot with the rifle. Witnessing and participating in many stirring affrays on the prairies and the forests in the great west, he spent what he often said were the happiest and most joyous years of his life. He hunted the buffalo and the bear, and learned from his dark associates their method of finding their way unerringly through trackless, gloomy woods and boundless plains. No wonder that he acquired an immense amount of information concerning the primitive customs of the Indians and gained an extensive knowledge of the scenery and characteristics of the country. Five years were thus passed, during which he traveled through nearly all the northern, southern and western states. Returning to civilized life, he settled in Philadelphia and began to write for American periodicals. Drawing from his great storehouse of treasured reminiscences, he wrote most interesting articles for the press of this city and Philadelphia.

The Mexican war broke out, and Reid obtained a commission in the United States army as second lieutenant in Burnett's regiment of New York volunteers. He was present at the siege and capture of Vera Cruz and distinguished himself in several battles. At Churubusco he led the last charge of infantry, and also the forlorn hope at the storming of Chapultepec. In this attack he was shot down at the head of his men, and was reported killed. He recovered, and had the satisfaction of being praised in more than one dispatch for gallantry. The war over, he resigned his commission. The next undertaking of note that he was connected with was the organization of a regiment in this city in 1849. His object was to assist the heroic Kossuth, who was then fighting hard for the idependence of Hungary. Full of this idea, he went to Paris and heard the unwelcome tidings that the efforts of the Hungarians had been crushed mainly by the aid of Russian armed intervention, and that Kossuth had been forced to seek refuge in Turkey. Reid then went to London, took up his quarters there and began to write stories of adventure and romance, in which he narrated many of the episodes of his own life on the prairies and among the Mexicans and Indians. So fascinating were the tales that issued from his facile pen and so entertaining to the youthful mind especially, that his books were soon in great demand among the London publishers. They attained an immense reputation and a circulation commensurate with their charm. Very noticeable indeed is the deep and wide knowledge of natural history displayed throughout all his writings. It is hard to distinguish, also, on which he was the best authority—natural history, geology or botany. As a writer of boy's books he was unsurpassed, and he has delighted the hearts of the juvenile population on both sides of the Atlantic, and it is not an unsafe prediction to say that his works will continue to be as popular 50 years hence at they are to day.

He visited the United States on many occasions after he became famous as an author, at one time lecturing in the city in defence of Lord Byron, of whom he was an enthusiastic admirer, and at another giving in a letter to the Herald some suggestions as to the management of horse cars, especially directed to their drivers. An indefatigable writer he was the author of more than fifty works of fiction and several of zoology. He was also a versatile contributor to newspapers and magazines. He leaves a wife and child. Of late years he resided on a small farm in Hertfordshire. He went often to London, and was also a well known figure in Fleet street, walking with the aid of crutches and dressed in a remarkable style. He was the author among other works, of "The Rifle Rangers," published in 1849; "The Scalp Hunters," in 1850, in both of which the author detailed his experience of prairie life and war like adventure; "Desert Home;" or "Family Robinson," in 1851; "The Boy Hunters," in 1852; "The Young Voyageurs," in 1853; "The Forest Exiles," in 1854; "The Bush Boys; or, Adventures in South Africa," and "The White Chief," a novel, in 1855; "The Young Yagers" and "Quadroon," a novel, in 1856; "The Plant Hunters; or, the Himalayan Mountains," in 1857; "Oceola," a novel, in 1859; "The Wood Rangers," a novel; "The Hunters' Feast," a novel; "Quadrupeds—What They Are and Where Found;" "The Tiger Hunters" and "Bruin; or The Grand Bear Hunt," in 1860; "Ran Away to Sea," "War Trail; or, Hunt of the Wild Horse," and "Wild Huntress," in 1861; "The Maroon," a novel, in 1862; "Croquet," in 1863; "Cliff Climbers; or, the Lone Home," "Ocean Waifs" and "White Gauntlet, a Romance," in 1864; "The Headless Horseman," in 1865; "Afloat in the Forest," in 1866; "The Giraffe Hunters," "The Guerilla Chiefs," "Quadrupeds" and "The Child Wife," in 1868; "The Cataways; a Story of Adventure in Borneo," "The Fatal Cord," "The White Squaw" and "The Yellow Chief," in 1870; "The Finger of Fate," in 1872; "The Death Shot," in 1873; "The Mountain Marriage," in 1876, and "Gwenn Wynn," in 1877.

Gold by the Ton.

The Amador (Cal.) Dispatch says: One of the richest strikes known in the mining history of California was made three miles south of this place last Saturday. A pocket of quartz of almost unparalleled richness was found less than 100 feet from the surface, in which was contained from $75,000 to $100,000, and about two tons in quantity. Much of this might be termed chunks of gold instead of gold bearing quartz. Some of these pieces of solid gold were about as heavy as a man could lift from the ground. The largest piece was an oval, sixteen by twenty-two inches, and six or seven inches thick. This gold is almost black, and of the same character as the former rich strikes found in the same mine. We have no doubt that this is the richest find of gold ever known in the United States at one time.

During Friday a ton of this gold freighted metal was taken out. It is not so rich as the gold streak taken out some time ago, but there is vastly more of it. The value of this bonanza is estimated at from $50,000 to $100,000. The ledge is five feet wide, and the whole face of it is held together, as it were, by spikes of solid gold. Altogether 3000 pounds have been taken from this bunch of ore, and the end is not yet. The very rich streak from which this mass of free gold has been taken ranges from an inch or so up to twenty inches in width. The previous seam varied from the thickness of a knife blade to three inches.

Bob Burdette on Art.

Bob Burdette has gone in for art criticism. His maiden effort is too good to be lost. Here it is: "Miss Honora Danbigne has just completed a portrait of her father in oil. It would have looked more like the old gentleman and would have smelled infinitely more like him, had she worked the portrait in whisky. Still, as a work of art, it is a very valuable painting; $13 worth of tube colors were used in its construction, and the frame alone cost $45. The hair wart on Mr. Daubigne's cheek is omitted in the picture; and the right ear which was bit off in a fight down at the red bridge ten years ago, has been restored by the magic touch of the accomplished artist. The nose of the subject, also, has been toned down, being treated in rose lakes instead of vermillion. To get at the true soulfulness, the tout ensemble, the immortal intellectual chiaro-oscuro of Mr. Daubigne's nose, it would have to be treated in the lake of brimstone, if there is such a color. As a work of art, however, the portrait is ore of which our city may well be proud. It can be recognized by a glance at the name of the subject, which was neatly lettered on the frame, by Stepladder, the sign-painter.

Women Lawyers in Italy.

Italy is getting as much ahead of us as America. La Signora Lydia Poet has just been admitted to practice at the bar of Turin, and appeared for the first time in her barrister's gown to plead the cause of a young painter whose pictures had been unjustly detained by his landlord, and much injured by the damp of the garret to which they had been consigned. The lady barrister obtained a great success for her humorous description of the subject of the pictures, and amid much applause, obtained a verdict with goodly damages in favor of her client. She was escorted home, still enveloped in her lawyer's robes, by a large concourse of people, who gave her a serenade in the evening, in which the tenor voice of the young painter was conspicuous by its deep expression.—London Herald.

Mr. B's Reason.

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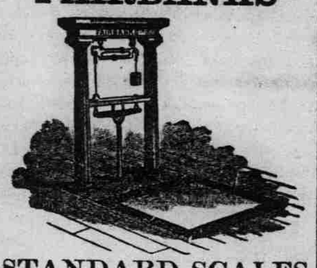

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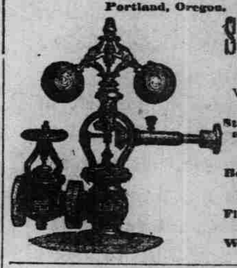

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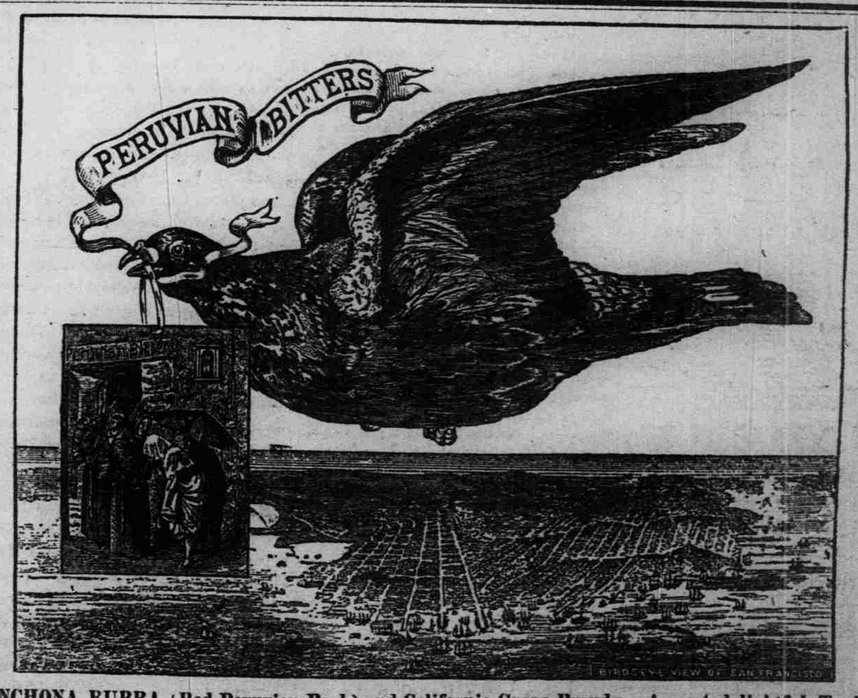

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