

POEMS WE MISS.

Epic of the Great Events in Our National History.

We have many volumes of commemorative odes of quite respectable literary quality, but we look in vain for an epic of the war of the Revolution, which might fill each one of us with the heroic spirit and bind us all in that living union of great hearted humility which is the supreme national pride. We look in vain for an epic on the great civil war, with one of the greatest of all life's soldiers as its hero, nor do we find immortalized in verse those wonderful expeditions across this continent—the travels of Lewis and Clark, the settlement of the forty-niners, the opening up of Alaska, the reclamation of the deserts and the founding of Texas. How otherwise than through poetry are our children to possess the beauty and the glory and the spiritual grandeur of the saga figures who founded this marvelous union of states, of those heroes who "highly resolved" and so highly achieved? It is true Walt Whitman chanted the song of democracy, but his chant is a magnificent prophecy of an ideal—it is an exhortation, not a poetic manifestation. The spirit that strove and is striving toward a realization of this democracy is best caught when exemplified in the lives and deeds of the men who lived and fought, who conquered and died fighting, moved by this spirit. This is the creative work of the poet we await.—Temple Scott in Forum.

CITIES HARD TO KILL.

What Rome, Paris, Constantinople and London Have Suffered.

It is a difficult thing to kill a city, and there are some well known places that have so much vitality that they will survive any number of disasters.

Take Rome as a first example. No fewer than ten times has she been swept by pestilence. She has been burned twice and started out on six occasions. Seven times she has been besieged or bombarded. But she still flourishes. Perhaps that is why she is called the Eternal City.

Paris has had eight sieges, ten famines, two plagues and one fire which devastated it. We make no reference to the number of revolutions, as they are too numerous to mention. But Paris still flourishes.

Constantinople has been burned out nine times and has suffered from four plagues and five sieges. There are some people who think that many of the sultans have been as bad for the city as any pestilence. And yet she goes on.

Lastly there is the English metropolis. London began as a kind of mound, in a swamp. In her early history she was sacked, burned and all her inhabitants butchered. She has been decimated by plague five times, exclusive of typhus, cholera and such maladies. She has been more or less burned seven times. She is thriving in spite of all.

Yet He Loved the Sea.

It is said that Bryan Waller Procter, known as Barry Cornwall, who wrote the well known poem—

I'm on the sea! I'm on the sea!  
I am where I would ever be!  
was the very worst of sailors. When we read that he was so senesick that he could scarcely bear the sound of a human voice it becomes apparent that his wife's conduct during his affliction could scarcely have been reassuring. As he lay on the deck of a channel boat, covered with shawls and a tarpaulin, she had the pleasing habit of humming a strain of his jovial sea song. The poet who loved the sea, but loved it best at a distance, had very little life just then, but what force he had was used in the entreaty:  
"Don't, my dear! Oh, don't!"  
Yet no doubt he loved the sea.

Origin of Panic.

No word has moved with the times more than "panic." Look ago in ancient Greece it was a wild fear inspired by mysterious sights and sounds among the mountains and valleys by night, which were attributed to the god Pan. Nowadays it has a by no means supernatural significance on the stock exchange. "Panic fear" was the original expression, and in shortening it to "panic" we have all really been as shipshod as the small boy who calls his "comic paper" a "ponic." Shaftesbury 200 years ago would have used the word for any contagious feeling that seized upon masses of men. "There are many Panicks in Mankind besides merely that of Fear. And thus is Religion also Panick."—London Mail.

Elastic Time Table.

In its early days railway traveling was a much less formal affair than now. One night, back in the sixties, the guard of the last train leaving Rantf was reminded by an irate passenger that it was some minutes past the starting time. "Oh, ay," replied the man, "but Meester F. has a dinner party the night, and I'm jist gaein' him two or three meenits' preerilege."—London Chronicle.

His Half.

A wife after the divorce said to her husband:  
"I am willing to let you have the baby half of the time."  
"Good!" said he, rubbing his hands.  
"Splendid!"  
"Yes," she resumed, "you may have him nights."

He Objected.

Clergyman—Elmer, wouldn't you like to be a minister when you grow up?  
Small Elmer—No, sir; I don't believe in working on Sunday.—Chicago News.

A TURKISH SINCERE.

Easy Job of the Man Who Was Appointed Buoy Tender.

Some years ago it was resolved to buoy the shoals in the sea of Marmora, some of which extend to a mile or more from the shore. An English naval officer was lent by the English to the Turkish government in order to carry out this and other measures.

He laid down the buoys and was surprised to find that the Turks thought that thereupon the whole business was concluded. He pointed out, however, that buoys require care, that it is necessary to repaint them from time to time, to pump the water out of them and to see that they remain duly anchored in their right position. To convince the Turks of this took a considerable time; but, being at length convinced, they appointed a man especially to take charge of the buoys.

Some months later, however, the English officer heard shocking reports of these buoys and many complaints of them, and on going out to inspect them he found the paint worn off and most of the buoys waterlogged. Hereupon he wrathfully found the man in charge and demanded an explanation. The man informed him that he had never been supplied with a boat and had therefore never been able to visit the buoys since he had been in charge of them!—London Family Herald.

DEAD RECKONING.

One Way of Determining a Vessel's Course on an Ocean Voyage.

Dead reckoning simply means the computation of a ship's longitude and latitude from her movements as recorded in the log and without having recourse to astronomical observations. The chief elements from which the reckoning is made are these:

The point of departure—that is, the latitude and longitude sailed from or last determined—the course or direction sailed in as ascertained by the compass, the rate of sailing, measured from time to time by the log, and the time elapsed.

The various principles or methods followed in arriving at the reckoning are known among navigators as "plain sailing" and "middle latitude sailing." However, the data thus obtained are always liable to considerable errors by reason of currents, leeway, fluctuations of the wind and changes in the declination of the compass. The results arrived at by dead reckoning, therefore, must of necessity be corrected as often as possible by observation of the heavenly bodies. No navigator would risk relying wholly on this method of determining his position on an ocean voyage.—New York Times.

Pointing the Point.

"I think," remarked Riggs, "one of the funniest signs I ever saw was this: 'Teeth Extracted While You Wait.'"

Riggs laughed long and loudly at this, and shortly afterward he tried it on Jiggs.

"A friend of mine," he said, "told me of a funny sign he had seen—'Teeth Extracted While You Wait.'"

Jiggs reflected.

"What is there funny about that?" he asked. "I don't quite catch the point."

"Can't you see? The man who put up that sign used five words when one would have been enough. The word 'dentist' covers the whole round. Every dentist is supposed to pull teeth, isn't he?"

"Oh, yes; I see. Ha, ha, ha!"—New York Mail.

Arm in Arm With a Tigress.

It is related of Sir Edward Bradford that he once walked arm in arm, so to speak, with a tigress. He was out shooting and, always a fearless sportsman, had come to close quarters with his quarry. He fired, and either the ball failed to take effect or but slightly wounded the animal. She sprang at him and seized his left arm above the elbow. The pain must have been terrible, but Sir Edward kept cool, and, realizing that it would be death to drag his mangled arm away and allow her to spring afresh at him, he deliberately walked a few agonizing paces until his comrade was able to take aim and kill the brute. Thus his courage saved his life, though the amputation of his arm at the shoulder proved necessary.

Fire Extinguishers.

About 1840 a Mr. Thomas Phillips of London invented an apparatus for putting out fire, but it was not much of a success. When put in action the steam and carbonic acid which were to extinguish the flames were not generated in sufficient quantity to do the work. A Frenchman named Carlier patented a fairly successful extinguisher in 1862, since which date they have been used more or less all over the world to put out incipient fires, though, of course, they are valueless after the fire has acquired much headway.—New York American.

The Gladiators.

Usually gladiators were matched in pairs. They fought in different ways—blindfolded, in chariots, on horseback, in full armor and with the issao. Nets were used by some, who, after throwing one over the head of an antagonist, dispatched him with a three pointed lance or trident.

Convenient.

Dick—Bill writes that he's living in a magnificent cottage. Sam—Why, it's so small that you can stand on the roof, reach down the chimney and open the front door.—St. Louis Republic.

There are no elevators running up and down the ladder of fame.



La Pine, Crook County, Oregon.

SEPULCHERS OF WAX.

Tombs That Bees Sometimes Erect in Their Hives.

Bees have a very ingenious and satisfactory way of disposing of a mouse or a slug that may happen, by accident or design, to find its way into their hive. When the intruder is killed the problem arises how to deal with the body. If it is impossible to expel or dismember it they will proceed methodically to inclose it in a veritable sepulcher of wax.

In one of his hives a beekeeper discovered three such tombs side by side, erected with party walls like the cell of the comb, so that no wax should be wasted. These tombs the prudent "sextons" had raised over the remains of three snails that a child had introduced into the hive. As a rule, when dealing with snails, bees will be content to seal up with wax the opening of the shell. But in this case the shells were more or less cracked and broken, and they had considered it simpler, therefore, to bury the entire snail.

They had further contrived, in order that traffic might not be impeded in the entrance hall of the hive, a number of galleries exactly proportionate, not to their girth, but to that of the male bees, which are almost twice as large as the workers.—London Standard.

STRAIT OF MAGELLAN.

Place Names That Dot It Breathe of Its Tragedies.

The history of the loit of the strait of Magellan began when the first primitive canoe capsized and fatally spoiled its dark skinned Amerinds into the icy waters of this southern archipelago. The first white man's toll was paid on his maiden passage through the strait by the man whose name the strait now bears, and the price exacted was one of the flower of his fleet and the desertion of others, which turned tall for home before the bitter blasts from the western unknown.

Since that long 300 years ago these wild and forbidding regions have exacted their heavy toll of life and property from every maritime nation

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The Smiling Face

that bids you "A Happy New Year" is a balm to the grieving heart and a comfort to the weary. This is not a season for fasting, but for feasting; not for fretting, but for fraternizing; not for frowning, but for frolicking; not for moodiness, but for merriment; not for care and worry, but for joy and laughter. Let us echo the pretty girl's greeting: "A Happy New Year." We offer you all the good wishes imaginable, and we will back up the sentiment with a promise to give you better and bigger bargains than ever during 1912.

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of the globe which has sought to use these "ends of the earth" as a highway. The very names given by explorers to these parts are a clue to its history and character—Mount Darwin, Beagle channel, Mount Sarmiento, Desolation Island, Thieves bay, Port Famine, Mount Misery, Unfit bay, Last Hope inlet, in many cases spelling tragedy in its worst forms.—Outing.

A Careful Clerk.

"Why didn't you praise that sausage more?" demanded the grocer. "That sausage is all right."

"It doesn't pay to praise sausage too highly," retorted the new clerk. "It might wag its tail."—Washington Herald.

Money is a bottomless sea in which honor, conscience and truth may be drowned.—Koslay.

PROPOSITION TO C. O. I.

(Continued from first page.)

tracted for under the North Canal extension, provided all moneys shall be secured so that they can be returned to purchaser if there is a failure to build the extension of the North Canal, and all purchasers shall be notified that money will be returned if land is not reclaimed within two years, and that no water will be guaranteed before that date.

"Seventh—That money to be used for the enlargement of the Central Oregon canal may be used for the construction of the North Canal if the Company can satisfy the Board that they have sufficient funds to complete the North Canal to the old river bed.

"Eighth—That the Company shall give to the Board a surety company bond satisfactory to the Board, in the penal sum of \$25,000 to insure the construction of the main Pilot Buttee flume and the enlargement of the Central Oregon canal; and that an additional bond in the same sum be given to insure the construction of the North Canal to the intersection and to guarantee the return of the notes and first payment to purchasers of land in Segregation List No. 19, under the North Canal, in case said lands so sold are not reclaimed within two years from their sale; provided, however, that should

the money realized from first payments at any time exceed the amount of \$25,000 an additional bond satisfactory to the Board shall be given by the Company.

"Ninth—That if the foregoing conditions are not complied with by the Company by February 1, 1912,

foreclosure proceedings under the statute will be commenced by the Board.

"Tenth—That the Company shall notify the Board on or before Wednesday, Dec. 27th, 1911, whether or not this proposition is accepted by the Company."

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