AN ALE-EGORICAL SKETCH. History of Ale.

The following extracts are copied from the quarto edition of a beautifully printed and illustrated little volume entitled "Ale: in Prose and Verse, by Barry Gray and John Savage." Mr. Gray has strung together, in a ballad of thirtytwo stanzas, sundry pretty conceits concerning ale, the people who make it, and the people who drink it and added thereto many pleasing incidents of a tonic, Teutonic, and Platonic character. Mr. Savage's pagt of the work, a history of ale from early times to the present day, shows great research, and contains much matter of a valuable as well as an interesting character. The book is dedicated to the memory of the late John Taylor, of Albany, formerly Mayor of that city, and known as one of the largest and most successful brewers of ale in this country. The book is not for sale, but is intended solely for presentation, an edition of ten thousand five hundred copies, octavo and quarto size, having

been printed. LET US DRINK. Tom Miller, gay and festive fellow, Come, put aside your books and pen,
And we with let our hearts grow mediow,
By mingling with our brother men.
We're dull as monks in lyies c oisters;
We need wherewith our hearts to cheer;
We'il and it in a dozen oysters,
And in two mugs of sparkling beer.

John Taylor was a famous brewer,
In Albany for years he dwelt,
And never nobler man or truer,
Than he, be ore God's Throne e'er kneit.
You knew him, Tom, and off united
With those to whom his love was dear,
Around the festal board, delignted
To quaff his generous foaming beer.

You know his sons, both Joe and William, Two glorious men as s'er drew breath,
And there was Ned—one in a million!
But his bright eyes are closed in death.
A truce, though, Tom, to thoughts of sorrow,
Grieving o'er friends doth nought avail; What if the grave claims us to-morrow! To-day we'll drink our mug of ale.

And such a'e. too, my jolly fellow,
As well would suit the gods to quaff;
'Twill make the saddest hearts grow mellow,
And cause the gloomiest man to laugh.
I've drank the wines of many a vine-land,
The product of both bill and dale,
But I'd exchange the best of Raineland For one sull mug of Taylor's ale.

TOO-TONIC. The bearded Teuton, round and burly, May find the best of fe-tai che r-Whether the hour be late or early-In countless mugs of layer beer.

His flaxen-haired and blue-eyed daughter,
May even o'er my tastes prevail,
And—for her eyes do gruel slaugh er—

Make me forego my favorite ate. But only for a little season, An hour or two in Jones' Wood, For when returns my ca mer reason,
I shake my bead and say, "No good."
Lager may do for p nump Dutch maiden,
To wash down Sch veitzer oneese severs.
But I prefer my table laden
With Shrewsburys and foaming beer.

AN EARLY LOVE. October's brewage, pure and creamy,
Fragrant of hops and mat new-made,
To childhood's days, so sweet and dreamy,
Fraught more with sunshine than with shade,
Carried us back to when we rambled
With pretty Madye o'er hill and dale,
While grusty Watch before us gamboiled,
Long ere we knew the taste of ale.

The scent of blossoming hops was wafted The scent of blossoming hops was wafted From fields where vines innumerous grow, And 'mid its perfume there was grafted A savor which the barley knew; Those climbing vines, those fields of barley, Heard then full many a pleasant tale, While for her kisses we did parley, Accalled to mind now o'er our ale.

Those haleyon days long since have vanished Those ha'eyon days long since have vanished
For Madge, dear Madge, is now but dust;
Ber form 'rom earth for ever banished,
Mer spirit mingles with the just.
But while remembrance bids us weep her,
Our love through life will never tail,
For in our heart of hearts we'll keep her,
And drink her memory in our ale.

EARLY MENTION OF BEER, The mention of beer or fermented liquor is, in the common phrase, as old as the hills. If the antiquity of its appearance on the historical records of Old Earth has any recommendatory qualifications, as is frequently the case with other things, certainly its importance will not be considered far behind almost any other arti-

cle of domestic use.

Tradition, failing in the remoteness of the earlier stages of its being to fix with certainty the invention of beer on earth, takes reluge in the regions of mythology, and accords its first creation to the god Bacchus. Whether beer owes its paternity to the folly Diemon Bonus (one of the many names given to the god of wine, because, at all feasts, the last glass was drank to his honor), or to any less heathen or more drunken demi-god, is a matter of small consequence in these days of earthly progres

WHO INVENTED BEER? Coming to what appeals more to our reason, we find that Herodotus, whose writings are the first extant of Grecian historians, and who flourished in the close of the tith century previous to the Christian era, sets beer down as an Egyp-tion invention, and ascribes its discovery to Isis, wife of Assyria. She brewed a wine or beverage from barley; and Mr. Talboys Wheeler, in his remarkably literary panorama of the history, manners, arts, and social condition of the ancients of that day, tells us that, as vines did not grow in Egypt, the wines of Greece and Phoenicia were very largely imported and con-sumed by those abie to enjoy such indulgence; but those who could not buy the foreign growths, drunk a kind of home-made wine or beer, produced from barley, which, however, was very superior to the ale drank by the lower orders in Greece. Xenophon, in his description of the retreat of the ten thousand, (of which he was a general), after the bat ic of Cunaxa, sixty from Babylon, in the year 401 B. C., mentions beer as a beverage. Piodorus Siculus, who flourished in the first century before Christ, alludes to a fermented decoction of barley as one of the ordinary beverages of the Egyptians, and Tacitus (born Anno Domini 57) adopts the dates given by the older Greek writers, and states that such a drank was much

THE NATIONAL DRINK OF THE TEUTONS. Beer was the national drink of the Teutons. seer was the national drink of the Teutons. It was the patent beverage of the heroes and sea-rovers of the Norseland, and not only filled up the measure of delight, next to fighting, in this world, but entered largely into their expected joys in Valhalla. To drink ale in the halls of Odin, even from the skulls of their foes, deprived death of its terrors. The death-chant of Ragnar Lodbrog, a famous sea-king, who was captured and killed in prison by a Northumbrian king, about A. D. 865, exhibits the beer hopes of the Norse heroes:—

"We fought with our swords; still I delight When I taink of the banquet prepared By the father of Balder to regule the brave; There we shall copionsly drink of ale, Out of cups that are formed of the

"Now cease our song—the goddesses come And invite me home to the Hall of Odin; Happy there, on a high-raised throne, Scated with gods, I shall quaff my ale."

THE ALE AND BEER OF BUSSIA. In Russia, ale and beer are of universal accept In Russia, ale and beer are of universal accept ance. The beer of Riga is of a superior order, and the ale of Okka, in Nishney Novogorod, is said to partake of the character of Burton, both in quality and flavor. Quass and Braga are in common use. The Quass, which is the ordinary household beverage is made of barley malt, and small proportions of rye and malt and unbolted rye meal, sometimes varied by adding raising to make it foam, a piece of rye bread to raisins to make it foam, a piece of rye bread to acidulate it, or different fronts to give it color. In all the modes of making it cold or tepid,

water is poured on the ingradients, the cans greased and set in a hot oven. Kissiyschischy is the name of a kind of Quass, made from rye meal and boiling water, violently stirred. Cold water is added, and, after fermentation, it is said to be a fine drink, foamy, effervescent, sparkling like Seltzer water, and bearing a resemblance to the Hornerbier of Vienna. Braga is a thick white liquor, vinous in flavor, heady, and drank by "the common people." It is made of oat meal, or wheat and hops, and is pleasant when fresh. when tresh.

ALE AMONG THE POETS. Ale has not been overlooked by the poets and dramatists. Ser John Barleycorn has been a standing character with them. He is the Gam-brinus of our race, and the history of the beverage represented by him receives a great deal of lively illustration from the attention and writings of the poets and literati. Of course it is neither desirable nor necessary that the many noticeable allusions to ale, which occur throughout the writings in the English tongue, should be referred to much less quoted; but it should be referred to, much less quoted; but it will be in generous accord with the subject being, as it were, the creamy foam beads on the brown or amber beverage—to draw upon litera-ture and the lives of eminent people for some illustration of that which so happily inspired them on various occasions.

SALE AMONG THE DRAMATISTS. In connection with the subject, it is certainly interesting to know that Shakespeare's father was one of the ale-tasters of Stratford-upon-Avon about the same time that he was a member of the corporation of that borough. The stage furnishes many glimpses characteristic not only of the use of ale but of the peculiar qualities and special local brewings of it. The famous scene between old "Will Bonitace" and "Aimwell," in Farquhar's Beau's Stratagem, for instance, which is one of the heartiest passages is the model range of comedy, and in which the instance, which is one of the heartest passages in the whole range of comedy, and in which the jolly bost, who was as particular in the age of his ale as of his children, describes Litchfield brew 'smooth as oil, sweet as milk, clear as amber, and strong as brandy," with the additional information that 'it will be just four-teen years old the fifth day of next March, old

FUNCH, CLARET, AND BEER. "Morgan Odoherty," who had experience and great taste in such matters, advises people, instead of "dram drinking," which is an intamous and ruinous practice, and "port drinking," which is provocative of blobby Bardolphian noses, to "drink as much good claret, good punch, or good beer, as you can get hold of, for these liquors make a man an Adonis." Ana-lyzing the effect produced on the appearance of these liquors, he gives the palm to claret—the tasting of which, he says, creates a peculiar delicacy of expression about the mouth. "Beer, though last," he adds, "is not the least in its beautifying powers. A beer-drinker's cheek is like some of the finest species of apples-'The side that's next the sun.'

Such a cheek carries one back into the golden age, reminding us of Eve, Helen, Atalanta, and I know not what more. Upon the whole, I should, if called upon to give a decided opinion as to these matters, in the present state of my information and feeling, say as follows:—Give me the cheek of a beer-bibber—the calf of a punch-bibber—and the mouth of a claret-bibber."

PIOZZI, MALIBRAN, AND SIDDONS. What a chain of literary circumstances, and what an interesting fund of anecdote, is there not based upon and weven round Sam Johnson' residence, under the roof of Mr. Thrale, the brewer, samous as the husband of his wife, nee Hester Lynch; and, after his death, the vain, Madame Piozzi! Apropos of ladies illustrating the ale and beer history, it will be remembered that the angelic Mal bran was devoted—probably for the sake of her complexion—to a "pot of hair and half." Even the Siddons herself is the inspiand hall." Even the Siddons herself is the inspiration of a few very characteristic anecdotes relating to the "mait." Her predilection for a "pint of beer," on one occasion, produced a very novel and ridiculous stage effect; the boy, who was hurriedly despatched for the beverage, rushed back to the theatre, and, not finding Mrs. Siddons in the green-room or on the wings, and, intent on his errand, durted on the stage and presented the formular powder to the great presented the foaming pewter to the great actress, then going through the sleeping scene of "Lady Macbeth."

other anecdote presents her as what, if not very stagey off the stage. Moore told Shiel, the author of Evadne of an occasion when a large party were invited to meet her. She remained silent, as was her wont, and disappointed the expectations of the whole company, who watched for every syllable that should escape her lips. At length, however, being asked if she would have some Burton Ale, she replied, with a sepulchral intonation, Ale, she replied, with a sepulchral intonation, that "she liked ale vastly." Lockhart gives another and similar anecdote. When the guest of Scott, Mrs. Siddons, in an eminently tragic voice, addressed a servant:—"I asked for water, boy—you've brought me beer." Shelton Mackenzie having detailed one of these anecdotes to Maturin, author of Bertram, the latter very aptly said:—"The voice of Mrs. Siddors, I ke St. Paul's bell, should never toll except for the death of kings."

THE CONVERSION OF SENATOR WILSON. The religious conversion of Senator Wilson, which some have affirmed and others have denied, is announced by the Senator bimself in the following remarks made by him at a revival meeting at Natick, Mass., last week. The recent converts being invited to speak, Senator Wilson was one of the first to rise, and he spoke in substance as follows:-

"He felt he owed it to himself, to his friends about him, and to the cause of his Redeemer, to say a few words, though he did it with some reinctance. For more than thirty years be had attended the services of God on that spot, and had listened to hundreds of sermons. He had been convinced of the truths thus set forth, and had no excuse to offer for so long delaying to give his personal attention to the subject. He had never shielded himself of inidelity, or defended his position by that poorest of all excuses—the faults of professing Christians. Whenever addres ed personally on the subject, as he had often been by friends from variou parts of the country, he had always felt himself guilty before God, and yet he had lived more than fifty years rejecting God. He had seen the Christian die in the triumph of taith, and had often stood by dving soldiers and longed to speak some word of Christian comfort and cheer in their ears, and he could not. He had stood by the graves of those he loved best, and thought how often those lips, now cold in death, had breathed his name to heaven. He trusted that in answer to the prayers of a dear wife, of those dear departed ones, and of other dear friends, he had now found abiding peace. He would not exchange the hope he had for any earthly honor. He had enjoyed more peace and assurance during the past week than in any other period of his life. He gave himself, all he had and all he hoped for, to his Lord and Master, and if it might be revealed to him. The Senator was particularly glad to see so many young men upon his neighbors and iriends not to delay in making their peace with God. Searred and seamed as we sil are by sin, or at any rate as he felt himself to be, he rejoiced that there is morey and salvation at the foot of the cross." those lips, now cold in death, had breathed hi

-Edwin Forrest writes from California to a friend in Boston, that his health is greatly improved by mountain exercise and spring bathing. He adds:—"My present intention is not to return to the Fast until next spring, for it would return to the bast until next spring, for it would, be too great a risk to encounter the rigors of a winter there, which might prove disastrous to the restoration of perfect health. I shall visit Sacramento and some few other towns, and then go to Los Angelos, where I shall enjoy a climate quite equal to that of the tropics." Mr. Forrest played for thirty-five nights in San Francisco, and received nearly twenty thousand dollars in sold, but was compelled to suspend his engagement on account of ill-health.

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