



EASTER MORNING.

With clouds of gold and crimson
The Easter morning breaks,
From dreams of death and darkness
The slumbering world awakes.

In woodland, vale and meadow
The birds' glad carols ring,
And swelling buds and blossoms
Remind us of the spring.

The foaming, dashing river
Rejoicing to be free,
Goes madly leaping onward
To join the distant sea.

In nature's heart the current
Of life-blood's flowing strong,
The reign of death is ended,
The world is filled with song.

Old winter's chains are broken,
The earth awakes from sleep,
And joins with us in worship
This Easter day to keep.

While those with sorrow laden
Lift up in praise their voice,
The dreary night has vanished,
The nations all rejoice.

Oh, glorious Easter morning,
The message that you bring
Is dearer than the sunlight,
Or fairest flowers of spring.

For all the bells are ringing,
And in one sweet accord
They tell the joyful story
Of Christ, the risen Lord.

The Easter lilies blooming,
With incense fill the air,
The rosy sunlight links
Within each chalice fair.

And carols sweet ascending
Are wafted to the skies,
"The Saviour has arisen,
And we shall surely rise."

—W. G. Park, in Good Housekeeping.



EASTER LILY.

WHEN "No. 7" of the little Simpsons made its appearance on Easter day there was an animated discussion as to an appropriate name. Mrs. Simpson's heart was set upon Lily, the name of a former mistress of whom she was very fond. "Lily's all right, mah," said Arabella Maud, the eldest daughter. "But 'tain't enuff. All stylish folks tack on two or three names."

"Ef she was a boy I reckon we'd call her McKinley," put in Benjamin Harrison. Then, as a bright thought struck him: "What's de name ob de president's lady, Arabella Maud?"

"Lily," promptly answered that young person, who was authority in her own particular circle, even in matters pertaining to the white house. "But, you see, we've got an 'Lily; 'Lily Elizabeth."

Green Simpson, the head of the family (whose name couldn't have been more appropriate), sat smoking his pipe in the warmest corner of the chimney. No one ever thought of consulting him about family matters. "Do as yer mah says, chillens," he'd say sometimes with a show of authority, "Ise mo' important mattahs to 'tend to," though what they were no one ever discovered. Therefore, an explosion of chimney. No one ever thought of caused greater consternation than he did, when, taking his pipe out of his mouth, he said: "Name the kid Eastah Lily."

For a moment there was silence; then his better half rolled her eyes in his direction till nothing but the whites were visible, and said, with a grin: "Whah'd yer get such an ideah in yer pate, ole man?"

"Cause to-day's Eastah, to be suah," answered Green, chuckling at his own brightness.

Strange to say, all were favorably impressed. "Sounds like ristoeratic white folks," said Arabella Maud.

Grover Cleveland had gone over to the clothes basket where little No. 7 was peacefully sleeping, and stood gazing at her for a few moments. Then he said, in a deep bass voice, which I was going to say came from his boots, only he was barefooted: "Lilies is white."

This seemed a poser, but Arabella Maud proved equal to the occasion. "Yer granmah's named Rose," she said, sharply, "and she's the blackest niggah you ever seen. I reckon there's black roses and lilies, too, nowadays. I've seen 'em in bunnits."

Grover was quenching, and the baby's name was settled.

Poor little Easter Lily! It wasn't long before they discovered that something was the matter with her sight. "She can't see the leastest thing," complained Abraham Lincoln, who was trying to amuse her one day. "I done b'lieve she's blind as a bat." And so it proved.

A happier, healthier little darky never lived, and with six brothers and sisters to see for her, she didn't miss her eyes for awhile. But it was a great grief to Mrs. Simpson. Her chief comfort was in the child's name. "Eastah Lily's so s'out o' religious like," she'd say. "P'arr like it's jest the name for a pore blind lamb."

Mrs. Simpson was a devout member of the "Zion Baptist church," and Easter Lily was very fond of going with her and listening to the singing. I think in spite of Mrs. Simpson's sorrow over the child's misfortune, she felt that it somehow conferred a certain distinction upon her to be the mother of a blind child, and she took a particular pride in leading Easter Lily up the aisle,

and placing her on the seat beside her, where with her little fat legs stuck straight out she would sit, quiet as a mouse, continually rolling her eyes, precisely as if she could see, and joining in the singing with her shrill, childish treble. And she caught words here and there in "Brudger Smallwood's discourses" which she remembered, and often fired unexpected questions at her mother, much to the poor woman's discomfort.

"Who was it dat opened blind folkses' eyes?" she asked suddenly one Monday morning.

Mrs. Simpson took her steaming art s out of the tub and wiped them on her apron. "Why, de Laud, to be suah, honey," she answered.

"He said a man done it, Brudger Smallwood did," Easter Lily went on.

Mrs. Simpson wiped her face; theological discussions brought the sweat to her brow. "De Laud was de Laud, and a man, too," she said. "I can't take de time to 'splain it to yer now, and you couldn't understand no how."

"I knows," said the child, evidently satisfied. "De God-man did it." There was a pause and then she added: "I done wish He'd come again. 'Specs He'd make me see."

Things were getting beyond her mother. She went to the door and called Arabella Maud, who was hanging clothes on the line. "Get a move on yer, gal, and come in and 'muse yer sister."

But the child didn't forget. Her mind was active and she had a remarkable memory for a child of six. She was often heard telling wonderful stories to her brothers and sisters, about the God-man who made blind folks see.

There was unusual excitement at the big stone church just round the corner, "the church of the Epiphany." The children of the neighborhood, among whom were the little Simpsons, were intensely interested, and spent most of the morning watching the flowers that were carried in, and trying to get a peep inside. Every item of interest was carefully repeated to Easter Lily.

"De bishop's a-comin' to-night," the colored sexton told them, Abraham Lincoln being appointed a committee of investigation.

"What's he comin' fur?" asked the boy. The sexton was a family friend. "Heaps ob folks is gwine to jine de church," answered Uncle Jake. "And de bishop he dresses all in white like de angel Gabriel, and he puts his hands on dere heads and dat makes 'em 'Piscopals."

All this made an impression on East-



ter Lily that no one dreamed of. Surely this must be the God-man. He put His hands on folks and cured them. He was willing to be a "Piscopal" if He made her see, though what that meant she hadn't the faintest idea.

Of all her brothers and sisters, Grover Cleveland was her favorite. He was nine years old and a "very long-headed kid," his fond mother said. So Easter Lily finally succeeded in drawing him to a more secluded spot, where she confided to him a little plan of her own.

"Ise fear'd yer hatchin' up some mischief," said their mother that afternoon. "Grover Cleveland, if I cotch yer puttin' any fool nonsense in dat blessed child's head 'twill be de wuss for yer."

"We're all right, mammy," Easter Lily assured her. And glad to see the child happy the mother let them alone.

Service was nearly over at the big church round the corner. The choir of white-robed boys was marching slowly down the aisle, singing in their sweet, clear voices the hymn so full of inspiration, especially to the confirmation class: "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Then slowly the large congregation passed out, and at last the church was empty save the bishop and the rector, who were still kneeling at the chancel.

Suddenly the sacred silence was broken by the patter of four little feet tiptoeing up the aisle. Dressed in his Sunday best, to which he added on his own responsibility a collar of his brother's which reached his ears, his walking greatly impeded by the same big brother's shoes, which were kept on with difficulty, came Grover Cleveland, while dressed in a bright red calico so stiffly starched that it cracked with every movement, her head covered with little pigtail ties with a variety of colors and sticking straight out, trotted Easter Lily, holding tightly to Grover's hand as he shuffled along. They reached the chancel just as the bishop and rector arose from their knees.

"Now's yer chance," whispered Gro-

ver Cleveland, in a shrill, excited whisper, and they passed into the chancel. "Here he is—cotch hold of his gown—cotch hold, quick."

"What is the meaning of this?" The rector spoke very sternly as he saw the white robe of the bishop firmly clutched by a pair of little black hands. "What are you doing here?"

But Easter Lily was too much in earnest to be driven off in that way. She only clutched the harder, and looking up into the bishop's face with her poor sightless eyes said, fearlessly: "Oh, God-man, won't you make me see?"

Grover Cleveland now thought it time for an explanation. "She's stone blind, yer highness," he said, thinking that the proper way to address a bishop, and ducking his head as well as he could, surrounded as it was by the collar. "And we thought yer highness could cure her."

"Like de God-man dat Brudger Smallwood preached about," chimed in Easter Lily.

"Don't wait for me," said the bishop to the rector, who was absolutely speechless. His voice trembled, and there were tears in his eyes; those eyes that never failed to look kindly upon all who needed his help. Taking a seat he lifted the little girl in his lap, and in a few simple words told her the story of the God-man as she had never heard it before, and explained that he had no power to restore her sight.

The children listened with intense interest. Then, gently putting her down, he told her brother to take her home, asking their names and address. Then a carriage came for him, and in a few minutes he was gone.

The children stood there hand in hand in a dazed sort of way, till the sexton made his appearance to turn out the lights.

"Clar out, clar out, chillens. Does yer spouse we 'Piscopals never wants to git to bed?"

Then they slowly started for home. The nature of the expedition was a profound secret, they having got permission to go to "Uncle Jake's church."

"We won't tell nobody," said Easter Lily, as they reached the house. "De'd all poke fun at us." Then, with a sigh that was full of pathos, she added, softly: "I thought mebbe I'd come home secin'."

The Simpson family, or their neighbors, will never forget the excitement caused the next morning by a carriage stopping at the door of the Simpson dwelling, from which a tall, fine-looking man stepped, briskly and knocked



on the door. And when, after a call of at least half an hour (which the good man never recalls without a vivid recollection of mingled odors of bacon, cabbage and soap suds), he appeared accompanied by Mrs. Simpson and Easter Lily, the excitement reached a pitch which became almost panicky.

For days afterward Mrs. Simpson found her popularity as a hostess almost equal to that of "ristoeratic white folks," and she never tired of telling the wonderful story of the bishop's visit, and how he took her and Easter Lily to a great doctor who had cured heaps of blind people, and who thought he could cure little Easter Lily, too.

"So she's goin' to a hospitable to stay awhile," said her mother with pride. "He says she kin have lots of good things to eat—chicken an' sech like—and a nuss to take keer of her just like white folkses' chillen. And he says—Bress de good Laud!—that by next Eastah he is suah dat Eastah Lily'll see as good as any of us."—Blanche Bailey King, in Orange Judd Farmer.

Sweet Enough for You.
A little dream of white,
And a little stream of blue,
And that's the Easter bonnet
That is sweet enough for you!
A kiss beneath that bonnet
Is as sweet as honey-few,
And the ribbon blue upon it
Tangles all the heart of you!

A little dream of white,
And a little stream of blue,
And that's the Easter bonnet
Our dear old sweethearts knew!
A kiss beneath that bonnet
Made your glad lips wish for two
And that's the Easter bonnet
That is sweet enough for you!

—F. L. Stanton, in Atlanta Constitution.

Would Never Do.
"Here is a paper," he said, "that advocates a movement to compel women to take off their hats in church as well as in the theater." "In church?" she exclaimed. "That's what it says." "Might as well abolish Easter entirely," she said, indignantly.—Chicago Evening Post.

CHICAGO HEARINGS CLOSED.

The Beef Court Finishes Its Labor in the Windy City and Goes to New York.

Chicago, March 23.—The members of the government court of inquiry finished their labors in Chicago yesterday and left for New York last evening. The testimony of Gov. Roosevelt will there be received, after which the court will proceed to Governor's island.

The evidence brought forth yesterday consisted mainly of criticisms of the canned beef and refrigerated beef from soldiers who ate it and watched its effects in Cuba and Porto Rico.

David Fleischmann, a bell boy in the Hotel Morrison, told of a visit to the stock yards in the company of an unknown man whose purpose he supposed to be an experiment in the matter of preserving beef by chemical treatment.

W. Clark Marshall, the provision specialist whose testimony was expected to be sensational, threw no additional light on the question, his evidence being principally the expression of the opinion that canned beef as now put on the market is totally unfit for food.

Dr. John G. Burne, of Chicago, who was assistant surgeon of the Second Illinois volunteers while the regiment was at Jacksonville, stated that he had condemned the refrigerator beef several times before it left the wagon which brought it. He had also returned some of it to the cars, taking it back in wagons. He had refused the meat seven times in one month on account of the bad odor and bad taste.

First Lieut. Hedekin, of the Third cavalry testified that the principal meat ration in Cuba was refrigerator beef. The complaint against it was that it was rotten.

Col. Davis asked the witness if he had any reason to believe that chemicals had been used in preserving the refrigerator beef.

"The night after I joined my troop, refrigerator beef appeared on the table in the form of steak. Upon tasting it I noticed that it had a peculiar taste which I had never noticed before in beef. I ate heartily of it. That night I became sick, and I was unable to ascribe the disease to any other cause."

W. A. Robinson, traveling representative of the chemical firm of Charles Pfizer & Co., New York, testified that he formerly had sold chemicals to the packing trade. The witness said it was within his knowledge that his firm sells to packing houses large quantities of boric acid and other chemicals, but that so far as he knew such chemicals were never applied to fresh beef; they were used for export pork.

Albert G. Manns, the chemist of Armour & Co., testified that a large number of chemicals were used in the manufacturing department, but none in the packing house except borax and boric acid, which were used in packing some goods for the foreign market. The witness stated that the refrigerator beef sent to the army was shipped in the usual way and that no chemicals were used on it.

Clark Marshall said he had been a specialist in meat provisions since 1848, although he had not been in any of the establishments in seven or eight years.

"Please explain the nature and character of your experience with reference to canned meats, more particularly canned roast beef, so called," said Maj. Lee.

"I have investigated and experimented in the matter since 1848. The process of canning meat to-day robs the meat of all its nutrition, leaving nothing but fibre, fat and gelatine in the can. I consider it entirely unfit for human food."

A SPANISH FLAG.

First One that Saluted the President Since the War is Presented to Him.

Thomasville, Ga., March 23.—President McKinley and Vice President Hobart returned to the home of Senator Hanna last evening much pleased with their trip to Jekyll island. The meeting of Speaker Reed and the president was confined to exchanges of common courtesies in the presence of a number of other persons.

At Brunswick all the shipping, including three Spanish vessels, saluted the president's cutter, the Colfax. H. H. Raymond, southern manager of the H. Mallory line from the steamer Rio Grande, ablaze with bunting, came aboard and presented to the president a good-sized Spanish flag from the bark Tafalla, which had been waved in salute as the president's boat steamed down the harbor to Jekyll last Monday. It was accompanied by the following note:

"This is the first Spanish flag to salute President McKinley after the conclusion of peace between the United States and Spain and is now presented to the president at Brunswick, Ga., March 23, 1899, with the compliments of Rosendo Torras, late vice consul of Spain."

Puzzles Porto Ricans.

Washington, March 23.—Acting Postmaster General Heath has received a letter from Capt. W. H. Elliott, director of posts at Porto Rico, relating experiences on an official tour of the islands which he has just completed. Elliott states that the people were incredulous when he told them that sealed letters would be sacred in the mails and that any one who meddled with mail in transit or in possession of the government would be severely punished. He says the Porto Ricans entrust to the mails only unimportant letters, never mailing any matter regarded as private or valuable, as the mails have frequently been rifled.

Otis Is Reinforced.

Washington, March 23.—Additional reinforcements reached Gen. Otis at Manila yesterday as is indicated by the receipt of a dispatch from Gen. Otis saying that the transport Sherman had just arrived with the troops in good condition. The Sherman followed the Grant through the Suez canal and preceded the transport Sherman over the same route. The Sherman is expected to reach Manila in about two weeks. These three vessels will add about 5,000 fresh regular troops to the military forces in the Philippines.

SHERMAN STILL LIVES.

Report that the Ex-Secretary of State Had Died While on a Sea Voyage Proved False.

Washington, March 22.—Seldom has official Washington been more completely stirred by conflicting emotions than it was yesterday by the announcement first of the death of John Sherman and then by the contradiction of the report, which came a few hours later, the one giving a relief which was as marked as the sorrow produced by the other. The first report which was from New York was received at 3 p. m. The announcement seemed to follow naturally the other cablegrams of the day, stating that the venerable statesman's condition had grown worse, and there was a universal expression of regret and in many cases of personal distress over the news. Cabinet ministers, senators and members of the house expressed deep sorrow, speaking not only in terms of admiration and respect for the ex-senator's career, but dwelling with kindness upon his personal character.

The contradiction of the first report did not arrive until 8:30. It came in the shape of a positive statement from Santiago, made in the knowledge that the report of the senator's death had been immediately given as wide circulation in the city as was possible for it to receive at that hour. Secretary Hay was placed in possession of a copy of the dispatch as were also Mr. Sherman's family. "A most marvelous condition of affairs," remarked the secretary. He then proceeded to express his great relief that the first news was not confirmed.

The news of the reported death of Mr. Sherman took many persons to his house on K street. Among others who were congregated there when the representative of the press called were the two former private secretaries of Senator Sherman, Mr. Babcock and Mr. Vaile, as well as Miss Kate Willock, a niece, and Mrs. Charles Hoyt, whose husband was a cousin of Mr. Sherman. They and others present read the dispatch stating that the senator was still alive, with tremulous joy. The reading of the glad message had scarcely been concluded by those present than Mrs. McCollum, the adopted daughter of Mr. Sherman, burst into the room, accompanied by the daughter of Gen. Miles. They had received the news through a telephone message while at Gen. Miles' house and had hurried over to impart it to the rest of the family.

Mrs. Sherman is the one person of the household who suffered neither from the first announcement nor rejoiced over the second. She was not informed of either. Mrs. Sherman has been quite ill from a paralytic attack for several months, and had not been informed even of Mr. Sherman's serious illness, for fear of its effect upon her. It was felt when the news of his death came yesterday that it would have to be broken to her, but all hesitated to make the announcement. It was ultimately decided to postpone the sad duty until to-day. She was thus saved the shock.

Kingston, Jamaica, March 20.—The steamer Paris, with the party of Americans touring in West Indian waters, arrived here Sunday. John Sherman is steadily improving, though he is still a very sick man, and cannot with safety be transferred to-day to the cruiser Chicago.

IT'S A MERE SPECK IN THE SEA.

Commander Tausig Tells How He Took Possession of Wake Island.

Washington, March 22.—The conditions under which Wake island, midway between Honolulu and the Philippines, was taken possession of in the name of the United States by the commander of the Bennington, on her voyage across the Pacific, are given in a report to the navy department from Commander Tausig. The officer says he approached the island with the navigator at the masthead, steaming slowly along the southern and eastern sides to discover signs of habitation and looking in vain for an anchorage. He did not circumnavigate the island, but seeing that the outlet on the north was barred not only by a wall of coral but by a sand pit, he returned to the lee of the island. A landing was made at 1 o'clock on January 17 and a flag pole was raised.

When the flagstaff was in place the sailors were formed in two ranks facing seaward and having called all to witness that the island was not in the possession of any other nation, Commander Tausig ordered the American flag to be raised by Ensign Wettengel. Upon reaching the truck the flag was saluted by 21 guns from the Bennington. After the salute the flag was nailed to the masthead with battens and a brass plate with the following inscription was screwed to the base of the flagstaff:

"United States of America, William McKinley, president, John D. Long, secretary of the navy, Commander Edward Tausig, U. S. N., commanding the United States steamer Bennington, this 17th day of January, 1899, took possession of the atoll known as Wake island for the United States of America."

A Gift to Employees.

Buffalo, March 23.—Every employe of the Buffalo smelting works, the local branch of the Calumet & Hecla Mining Co., yesterday received an envelope containing a bonus of 10 per cent of the wages earned during the year. The gift to the employes is in lieu of an increase in wages.

Underwriters Indicted.

Cincinnati, March 23.—The grand jury of Kenton county at Covington, Ky., has returned indictments against the Home Life Insurance Co., of New York, and 42 other life and fire companies for conspiracy for "banding together and fixing and maintaining a higher rate of premium than would otherwise prevail." The indictment is found under the anti-trust laws of the state, and this action of the grand jury may be followed by the execution of the threat made by the underwriters, at the time of a previous indictment, to leave Covington without insurance.

CHINA'S SORROW.

Yellow River Floods Cause Millions to Starve.

AN APPEAL FOR HELP.

Hundreds of Cities and Towns are Submerged.

BEG FOR MONEY AND CORN.

Thousands of the Natives are Living in Straw Huts, While Countless Others are Without Any Shelter—Crops Entirely Destroyed.

Washington, March 25.—Citizens of the United States residing in Chefoo, China, have made an earnest appeal through Consul Fowler at Chefoo to the charitable in America and elsewhere on behalf of the sufferers from the appalling Yellow river flood of this year. The flood has been described by the natives as "China's sorrow," and the petitioners state that never before was the distress so great and heart-rending as now. The most conservative estimates place the number of starvation at 2,000,000 and time and increasing cold weather will undoubtedly greatly augment the distress.

The petitioners say they are daily, almost hourly, in receipt of reports from their countrymen in the interior depicting the condition of the famine refugees; hundreds of villages are submerged, cities surrounded by water, homes, furniture, clothing, in fact everything is under water or destroyed. The natives themselves are living in straw huts. Many have absolutely no shelter from the winter's cold and snow, subsisting on bark, willow twigs, roots, etc. The summer's crops have been a failure, the seed for the next spring's sowing is gone and there is nothing for these starving millions to hope for in the future.

"With our knowledge of the terrible want prevailing," says the American committee, "we venture to call upon the charitable in our home land to assist us in trying to alleviate at least a portion of this misery. Therefore we shall be glad to receive contributions of money and corn. We earnestly beg the merchants and others on the Pacific coast to contribute a steamer load of corn. The natives of Shantung, unlike those down south, subsist upon corn, and we believe if the grain men of the west will ship to the United States consul at Chefoo, it will be the means of not only saving thousands of lives, but of opening a market of from 25,000,000 to 30,000,000 consumers later on, as under normal conditions American corn can easily compete with native and if this corn can be sent, we guarantee that it will be distributed under the direct personal supervision of Americans now residing in or near the submerged district.

"We ask for money to be sent to the United States consul here, with which food, clothing and stock can be bought for the sufferers and we guarantee a strict accounting for every dollar thus received. Shantung is peculiarly interesting to American merchants, as the best market for their products in all China; to the missionaries because there are five denominations represented, comprising 118 adults, scattered all over this vast province, and to whom we look to assist us in distributing such relief as we may receive. Probably in no other place in the world, and probably not in this generation has there been so much suffering as is now being endured in Shantung. The natives are doing all in their power; one firm in Chefoo has contributed the equivalent of \$70,000 in cash and 10,000 bags of corn and all classes are contributing, but let us not forget that there are 2,000,000 starving."

Glass Tableware Combine.

Pittsboro, March 25.—The long talked of glass tableware combination will be consummated in New York to-day. Options on 95 per cent of all the concerns in the country have been secured. The principal stumbling block in the way of the combination have been the two large concerns, the United States Glass Co. and the Rochester Tumbler Co. These companies having finally come into line, the projectors left for New York last night for the purpose of closing the deal. The combination will be capitalized at between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000, the exact figure to be agreed upon in New York. When the consolidation is completed there will be a slight advance in prices.

Western League Schedule Adopted.

Milwaukee, March 25.—Western baseball league magnates got together Friday and adopted the season's schedule, which takes in Columbus. Should the National league drop Cleveland it will be an easy matter to transfer the Columbus aggregation to the Forest City without materially changing the schedule. The season opens on April 27, closes September 11, and calls for 126 games. St. Paul starts in at Kansas City, Minneapolis at Milwaukee, Buffalo at Indianapolis and Columbus at Detroit.

Beet Sugar Combine Formed.

Trenton, N. J., March 25.—Articles of incorporation of the American Beet Sugar Co. with a capital of \$20,000,000, were filed Friday. The company is authorized to manufacture and sell sugar and the various products of sugar beets, sugar cane and sorghum.

Garment Workers Ready to Strike.

Philadelphia, March 25.—Six thousand garment makers in this city will go on strike to-day at noon. They demand higher wages, a fair price for government work and the abolition of sub-contractors. Nearly 2,000 of the strikers are women.