

SUNBEAM AND SHADOW.

We shrink from little sorrows,
By our own weak hearts dismayed,
Hearken to the lesson taught us
By the Sunbeam and the Shade.

Came a sunbeam bright and golden
To the earth one summer's day;
Bud and bird awoke rejoicing,
Basking in its living ray.

But where'er the sunbeam traveled,
Over village, hill or dell,
With a sad yet gracious presence
Its attendant shadows fell.

Loud the people cried: "Oh, Sunbeam,
Dear art thou to old and young;
But we will not have the shadow
O'er thy radiant pathway flung."

Silently the shadow glided
From the bridge, from roof and stone,
But a glory left the heaven,
For the sunbeam too was gone.

Then they cried: "Come back, oh Sunbeam,
Cheer once more our longing sight;
Better were to keep the shadow,
Than to lose thy living light."

And the sun made answer truly:
"Be it known to one and all,
Where'er the sunbeam lingers
Must the shadow likewise fall."

HIRAM JENKINS' MISTAKE.

Hiram Jenkins drove slowly up the hill road that led to the farm-house of Deacon Bates. It was plain even to the casual observer that the errand he was on was of no common importance. No man would have arrayed himself so gorgeously simply for the purchase of a tub of fall butter or a yoke of steers. His hair was in a state of distressing smoothness, and seemed almost a part of the glossy hat which covered it. His coat and pantaloons were marvelous in their way, and his boots, which had been elaborately blackened reflected back the rays of the setting sun in a manner perfectly blinding to the beholder. And yet, notwithstanding his superiority in all these respects to the lilies of the field, there was apparent in his actions a singular sort of nervousness, a trepidation almost, which rendered his appearance at once ridiculous and awkward. This trepidation was in no wise lessened by the sudden vision of a red-headed urchin watching him from the barn-door, and who as the team approached, with an ever-widening grin, sped off in the direction of the farm-house and disappeared through the kitchen door. Hiram was conscious a minute afterwards of being a target for a half dozen pairs of eyes from the sitting-room windows, and it required extraordinary strength of mind on his part to drive past the house to the shed where the horses of all visitors were hitched. There are few more awkward things to do than to get out or in a carriage when women are watching, and though Hiram had probably never thought of the fact before, he fully experienced its truth, as, endeavoring to spring gently from the buggy, his foot slipped on the wheel and he came down on his hands and knees in the dirt. His remarks as he scrambled to his feet were confined to one word, but that, though short, was the most expressive one in the English language.

"I'll have to go round to the barn pump and wash my hands before I can go in," he said to himself. "I suppose they are having their fun out of me in the house now. Confound it, I wish I hadn't started."

As he passed the door of the horse-barn which was partly open he heard the sound of voices. He listened, and his heart sank as he recognized the tones of his rival, Elnathan Rodgers.

"I want her bad," he was saying. "She just suits me. You can't always have her, you know, and you'd better call the thing settled."

"I don't know about that," answered the deacon doubtfully. "I've always said, come what would, I wouldn't part with Jenny. But you hang on so, I don't know—"

"Say it's a bargain, deacon. I've thought it over a good while, and Jenny I must have. I'll treat her well you may be sure of that."

The deacon hesitated, blew his nose, and finally said:

"She's got some little tricks that nobody knows nothing about but me, and I don't want to impose upon a neighbor."

"Oh, pshaw! that's only an excuse, deacon. I'm willing to risk it."

"She kicked me in the stomach last winter, and bit little Sammy not mor'n six weeks ago. I can show you the scar now."

"Great king!" thought Hiram, "and here I was going to pop the question this very night. Who would have thought it!"

"I'll take that out of her," said Elnathan, continuing the conversation. "If she so much as lifts her foot against me, I'll give her a lickin' that'll last a month."

"Lick!" ejaculated Hiram to himself, astonished beyond measure. "Lick Jenny Bates! Well, this goes ahead of anything I ever heard of. And the old man doesn't say a word! What next?"

A pause ensued, which was at last broken by the deacon:

"Well, if you must have her, you must. I expect the old lady'll want something to say about it, though. She thinks as much of Jenny as I do. Won't you come into the house?"

"Not now. I've got to go down to the village before dark. I'll be round some time to-morrow."

Hiram Jenkins waited until he saw

his successful rival climb the fence between the two farms. Then he deliberately unhitched his horse, got into the wagon and drove off, never casting a look towards the window where the fair Jenny sat in watchful expectation. Not until he reached his own door did he draw a long breath.

"It seems just like a dream," said he to himself as he slowly unbuckled the harness. "To think of Jenny Bates kicking her own father and biting her little brother, and she looking as though butter wouldn't melt in her mouth! It's just as mean, though, in the deacon to lick as 'tis for her to kick. The old hypocrite! Well, I must say I'm mightily deceived in the Bateses. I s'pose Elnathan Rodgers feels cranky enough now he's got her. I just hope she'll kick his head off. Lucky for me I overheard what I did."

Notwithstanding this self-congratulation, Hiram felt all the pangs of disappointment and jealousy. He had not only lost his "girl," but had been cut in the most mortifying manner by a man he held in thorough contempt. He felt that even with what he knew of Jenny's faults, if he could gain her hand he would carry her off in spite of his rival or the deacon either.

A week passed by, and Jenny was never out of Hiram's thought. One day he went to the village, and while there, standing in front of the post-office, Elnathan Rodgers drove by with the deacon's mare.

"I s'pose now he's got Jenny he thinks he's got a right to the whole property," muttered Hiram. "I wish to gracious the old mare would put her feet through the dashboard!"

That night the singing school met at the Academy. Hiram came late. He used to sit with the tenors just behind Jenny Bates. Now he chose a different seat, and tried hard to sing bass. He could not, however, help seeing Elnathan Rodgers pass peppermint lozenges to Jenny, and also write something on the blank leaf of her singing book, which she read and answered.

"Of course he'll go home with her to-night," thought Hiram. "It'll be the first time I've missed it for a year. He's welcome, though."

All intermission he kept his seat, and pretended to be very busy looking for some tune in his singing book that refused to be found. Jenny did not look at him.

The doxology closed the school at last, and there was a grand bustle about the door, and an eager pushing among the young men to make sure of their favorites. Hiram was trying to make his way through the crowd, when he found himself at the elbow of Jenny Bates, and the same moment the hateful voice of Elnathan Rodgers was heard in the words:

"Shall I see you home to-night, Miss Bates?"

"No, sir," was the prompt answer. "I shall walk home alone."

Hiram was totally unprepared for this.

"Perhaps it's one of her fits," he said to himself. "The deacon said she had 'em; that nobody knew but himself. I'm glad she mitted him, though."

The word mitted reminded Hiram that he had left both on his seat in the school-room, and he stepped back just as the candles were being put out.

"Here's Jenny Bates singing-book," he heard one boy say to another. "She went off in such a hurry to-night she forgot it."

"Give it to me," said Hiram, who remembered what had taken place that evening, and with eager look sought out the written messages that had passed between Jenny and his rival. They were as follows:

"Tell your father he cheated me when I bought old Jenny. I thought by her name that she must be good for something, but she kicks and bites ten times worse than he ever told me. I wish now I had spoken for the Jenny in the house instead of the one in the barn."

And the answer.

"I guess the horse is as good as you deserve. As for choosing betwixt the two you mention, you won't be able to do that this year.—You have got the only Jenny you can ever get from my father."

A light broke in upon Hiram.

"Well of all the infernal fools I ever heard I am the biggest! A dog would have had more sense. It's not too late now, thank heaven."

The departing crowd started as Hiram with the singing-book in his hand rushed down stairs, two at a time, and up the road which led toward Deacon Bates's. If he was not too late he was nearly so, for Jenny was just opening the gates of the front yard.

"Stop, Jenny!" he exclaimed, panting for breath. "Here's your singing-book. You left it on your seat. I tried to overtake you."

"You needn't have taken the trouble, Mr. Jenkins; I guess no one would have stolen it," said Jenny with a great display of dignity and making a show of going into the house.

"Don't, Jenny! Wait—wait just a minute. I know I've acted like a fool; but just let me explain."

Jenny hesitated a moment, made another start for the door, then turned and went back to the gate where the discomfited Hiram stood waiting.

"Well, she said in as freezing a tone as she could command.

"Now don't look and talk that way,

Jenny Bates. You know I never would have acted as I have if I hadn't thought I had a reason for it. I thought you were going to marry Elnathan Rodgers."

"What business had you to thinkany such thing?" asked Jenny, firing up.

"A pretty explanation that is!" and again she turned away from the gate.

"Stop! let me tell you. Can't you listen a minute?" said Hiram in desperation. He felt there was no other way than to make a clean breast of it, and plunged into his story at once. Word for word he related the conversation he had heard in the horse-barn, and the effect it had upon him. He was deeply in earnest, and in closing, humbly appealed for forgiveness. He saw her tremble and put her hands to her face. Poor girl, she pitied him! His heart rose and his hand was upon the gate to open it, when a peal of laughter, louder and longer from being so per t up, rang out upon the night air, almost startling him out of his boots and walking the deacon and his wife from a sound sleep in the upper front bedroom.

Up went the window and a night-capped head was thrust out, with a demand as to what was the matter. Still Jenny laughed, while Hiram stood silent by the gate, angry and ashamed, not knowing whether to advance or go back. At last Jenny found her voice.

"Go home, Hiram Jenkins," she said; "say your prayers and go to sleep, and if you want to say anything more to me, come up to-morrow evening after supper. But mind, don't you go to listening at any horse-barns on your way home;" and she went off in another peal of laughter.

Hiram did not wait to say good night. Whether he slept or said his prayers that night is not recorded, but its established fact that eight o'clock next evening found him in Deacon Bates's parlor. The interview was a long and probably an interesting one, and its immediate result was that before Thanksgiving the deacon had neither a Jenny in the house nor in the stable.

Utilizing Christmas Cards.

It is pleasant to know that the Duchess of St. Albans, although a lady of high degree, has, like the worthy wife of John Gilpin, "a frugal mind." We learn that the Duchess of St. Albans is utilizing Christmas cards in a way that does equal credit to her ingenuity and benevolence. "Her Grace would be glad to receive contributions of cards which have served their original purpose, her object being to convert them into a permanent decoration for the Nottingham Hospital. Contributions should be sent to Bestwood Lodge; unless the other lady readers, titled or untitled, should feel disposed to emulate the example of the Duchess by turning their houses into fresh collecting centers for similar charitable work."

This is certainly an admirable idea, and we hope that *Truth* will tell us just how the Duchess arranges her cards. We have seen an admirable arrangement made by an untitled American lady, which would be suitable for purposes of hospital decoration, and at the same time answer the oft-repeated question, "What shall we do with Christmas, Easter and New Year cards?" The cards were tastefully arranged on a background of cardboard, tinted or white, cut in the form of a panel or frieze, which was covered with glass and framed with a narrow, inexpensive frame of light wood. The effect is exceedingly pretty, and in this way the cards are preserved from dust, and may be used for years as a decoration for walls, otherwise bare and cheerless. Texts of Scripture in illuminated letters are also framed and hung on hospital walls. These might be alternated with the frieze or panel of cards. Such wall decorations add immensely to the cheerfulness and attractiveness of hospital wards. Witness the case of the Children's Hospital, on Twenty-second street, New York, where the walls are covered with gay pictures, giving the wards, at a first glance, the appearance of large, pleasant play rooms.

Pipes of P. acc.

A lady in Detroit, who does not use tobacco in any form, has a collection of pipes which would do credit to a connoisseur. There are briar pipes from Switzerland, meerschaums from Germany, clay, porcelain and bisque pipes in every style of manufacture, and Detroit pipes bearing names engraved in the clay. The quaintest pipes, those that are made of brown or black clay, are designed with the bowls cut in the shape of a turk's head or a horse's, dog's, or sheep's face, and are tied together in pairs by tri-colored narrow ribbons and suspended to pictureframes and brackets. Occasionally this lady gives a "pipe party." It is a rather funny "invitation" club, but by no means stupid. Incense is burned in some of the pipes. The ladies smoke tea-rose leaves, sweet herbs and mildly flavored cigarettes in their pretty pipes, cross their little feet and tell jolly stories, as their male compatriots, who would no doubt vote it a very tame affair. The yellow cob pipes, tied with red and yellow ribbons, are favorite patterns with the lady smokers.

Speak well of your friends—of you enemies say nothing.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

A stitch in nine saves time.
A pin a gross is a day per year.
When the wit is in, the wine is out.—
Every great passion is but a prolonged hope.
It's a wise father that knows his own child.
It is well to think well; it is divine to act well.
One good example spoils many good precepts.
Man must become wise by his own experience.
Thinking is the talking of the soul with itself.
One vice is more expensive than many virtues.
There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the slip.
Every day has its dog. Some days have two dogs.
It's useless to lock the horse after the stable is stolen.
All is not lost when anything goes contrary to you.
There can be no Christianity where there is no charity.
Always leave home with loving words, for they may be the last.
Best be off with the new love before you're on with the old.
Those who live in stone houses shouldn't throw glass.
Let us be grateful to writers for what is left in the inkstand.
He who lives but for himself lives but for a little thing.
Silence is the wit of fools and one of the virtues of the wise.
Fiction pleases the more in proportion as it resembles truth.
Let us learn upon earth those things which call us to Heaven.
When love flies in at the window poverty flies out at the door.
Our actions are our own, their consequences belong to heaven.
To count but few things necessary is the foundation of many virtues.
There is no dungeon so dark and dismal as the mean man's mind.
Do not speak of your happiness to a less fortunate man than yourself.
You may lay yourself out not for much rest, but for great patience.
The little things that make up our life come every day and every hour.
The readiest and surest way to get rid of censure is to correct ourselves.
The main strength and force of a law consists in the penalty annexed to it.
There is but one way to heaven,—the way of self-sacrifice and unselfish service.
Wrongs entrenched in bad legislation can never be converted into vested rights.
As to trouble, who expects to find cherries without stones, or roses without thorns?
But little evil would be done in the world if evil never could be done in the name of good.
In judging of others, a man often erret; but in examining himself, always fruitfully.
When the heart is not occupied by good thoughts, bad ones are ever ready to insinuate themselves.
Worthy books are not companions, they are solitudes; we lose ourselves in them, and all our cares.
Gold can buy nearly everything in this world except that which a man wants most—viz., happiness.
The bread of life is love; the salt of life is work; the sweetness of life, poetry; the water of life, faith.
Hypocrites are wicked. They hide their defects with so much care that their hearts are poisoned by them.
Independence and self-respect are essential to happiness, and these are never to be attained together without work.
Any man may do a casual act of good nature, but a continuation of them shows it is a part of his temperament.
Every day is a little life, and our whole life is but a day repeated. Therefore, live every day as if it would be the last.
It is little troubles that wear the heart out. It is easier to throw a bomb-shell a mile than a feather—even with artillery.
There can be no good character without a conscience. But, to be of the best effect, it must be enlightened as well as sincere.
Whatever the world may say, there are some mortal sorrows, and our lives ebb away less through our blood than through our tears.
Health is one thing needful, therefore no pains, expense, self-denial, or restraint which we submit to for the sake of it is too much.
Pride and malice are the causes of censoriousness. We must seek a remedy for these evils in the practice of humility and charity.
The one prudence in life is concentration; the one evil is dissipation; and it makes no difference whether our dissipations are coarse or fine.
When you measure aught give full measure and weight with a just balance. One hour of equity is better than seventy years of devotion.
It is much easier to find a score of men wise enough to discover the truth than to find one intrepid enough, in the face of opposition, to stand up for it.
Reflection is an angel who every day bears reports to heaven of our doings here, and when the books are opened we must answer for the records kept.
The action of man is a representative type of his thought and will; and a work of charity is a representative type of the charity within, in the soul and mind.
The unprofitable servant was condemned not for doing ill, but for doing nothing; his sloth was his only crime, and for that he was condemned to outer darkness.
The every-day cares and duties, which men call drudgery, are the weights and counterpoises of the clock of time, giving its pendulum a true vibration, and its hands a regular motion.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—Speaker Carlisle's condition was much improved on the 11th, and his physician thinks he will soon be able to go out.

—James Harrady, colored, was frozen to death at Clifton, Delaware county, on the 10th, while driving from Philadelphia to his home in Media.

—The house of Hiram Atkins, at Concord, Ohio, was burned on the 10th and on the 11th Atkins and two children were found burned to death. "Atkins was an old and helpless invalid and his young wife left with a man represented as her brother a few hours after the fire."

—The houses of Congress met on the 11th in joint convention and counted the Electoral votes. When the count was finished Mr. Edmunds, the presiding officer, announced that Cleveland and Hendricks had received "a majority of the votes of the whole number of Electors appointed as they appear in the certificates read by the tellers," and "so appear to have been elected" President and Vice President.

—The boiler in McDanel & Wright's flour mill at Franklin, Indiana, exploded, on the 12th, wrecking the building and killing James High, the engineer.

—Snow began falling at Montgomery, Alabama, at 5 o'clock on the 12th, and continued at one o'clock in the afternoon. The ground is frozen hard, and the depth of the snow greater than has been known in that latitude for many years. Heavy snow is also reported at Tuscaloosa and Talladega.

—Sharp earthquakes were experienced on the 7th in the Mexican State of Oaxaca. At Nitepe houses were rocked to and fro, and one was thrown down.

—The Board of Education of Chicago has suspended Principal Barnes, of one of the high schools, for two weeks, for flogging a pupil. An order was also passed to hereafter abolish corporal punishment in schools.

—A train on the Illinois Central Railroad dashed into some empty cars at Chicago, on the 11th, owing to the carelessness of a switchman. About \$8000 damage was done to rolling stock, and a number of passengers were badly shaken up.

—The American Protective Tariff Association met on the 12th in New York, Henry L. Eckert, of Reading, presiding.

—The first annual session of the New York State Woman Suffrage Association was held on the 12th, in New York city. Addresses were made by Mrs. Lillie Blake, Mrs. Caroline Rodgers, ex-Governor Hoyt of Wyoming, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Hamilton, Wilcox and Mrs. Parnell.

—All the coal mines in Illinois, Indiana and Ohio are reported to have suspended operations, owing to the failure of the railroads, which are crippled by the snow blockade, to handle the stock.

—Speaker Carlisle is threatened with an attack of acute rheumatism, and will probably be confined to his house for several days.

—A freight train on the Washington, Ohio and Western Railroad was wrecked near Guilford Station, Virginia, on the 12th, by the breaking of a rail. Clarence Washington, the conductor, was killed.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

SENATE.

In the Senate on the 9th, there were but few members present, and the only business transacted was the first reading of twenty bills.

In the Senate on the 10th, a bill to provide for renewing and extending charters of provident institutions, savings institutions and savings banks came up on final passage. After a discussion between Messrs. Aull and Humes as to whether the pending bill did in fact leave it discretionary with the Governor to issue or extend a charter to an institution of questionable character, the further consideration of the bill was postponed, upon the request of Mr. Aull, to permit an amendment. On motion of Mr. Reyburn the Senate bill supplying the deficiency in the appropriation act of 1883 for the payment of salaries of Orphans' Court Judges, and the one for the payment of the salaries of the President Judges of the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Judicial Districts, were taken up and read the third time. The Senate adjourned.

In the Senate on the 11th the Wife Beater's bill was amended on second reading to confine the punishment to cases of wife beating, the explanation of this being that it would prevent women other than wives from practicing blackmail. The bill to provide for renewing and extending the charters of savings banks, etc., came up on final passage, but the title being amended, was laid over without action. Bills on the second reading occupied the remainder of the day. The Senate adjourned.

In the Senate, on the 12th, the Senate Bill for the maintenance, industrial education and training of the intelligent children of Pennsylvania was called up on second reading by Mr. Cooper, of Delaware, who moved to amend the first section by substituting in place of the requirement for an organization in conjunction with the soldiers' orphan schools, a provision that the new schools shall be organized in "such soldiers' orphan schools as can be spared for the purpose, from time to time, as the soldiers' orphan children decrease in numbers, or as they become consolidated in the remaining soldiers' orphan schools." Mr. Cooper offered an amendment to the first section with the operation of charitable and benevolent societies. The amendments were adopted, the bill agreed to and ordered to third reading, with the understanding that its merits would then be passed upon by a direct vote. The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

In the House, on the 10th, after the reading of the journal, Mr. Kelley, of Penna., moved an amendment to that document in the portion referring to a scene between Mr. White, of Kentucky, and the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms during Monday's session. Mr. Reagan moved to lay Mr. Kelley's motion on the table. Agreed to, yeas 166, nays 84. Mr. Keifer, of Ohio, moved that a committee of five members be appointed by the Speaker to examine and report on the fact with relation to the proceedings on Monday. After a long debate, Mr. Reagan moved to lay Mr. Keifer's motion on the table, which was agreed to—yeas 154, nays 32. The Speaker announced the appointment of Messrs. Clay, of Kentucky, and Keifer, of Ohio, as tellers for the House during the counting of the Electoral vote. A Senate bill was passed appropriating \$150,000 for the erection of a public building at Augusta, Maine. The Post-office appropriation bill was considered, pending which the House adjourned.

In the House, on the 11th, a bill was reported regulating the compensation of U. S. Marshals and other officials. It is the bill which was incorporated in the last Sundry Civil bill, but which was stricken therefrom in the Senate. The Post-office Appropriation bill was considered, pending which the House adjourned.

In the House, on the 12th, Nathan F. Dixon, elected Representative from Rhode Island, to succeed Jonathan Chase, appeared and was sworn in. Mr. Willis, of Kentucky, moved "that at the close of to-day's proceedings, the House shall take a recess until 10 o'clock to-morrow." His object, he said, was to take up the River and Harbor bill at that hour. The bill could be disposed of in four hours, as he proposed to ask the House to limit the debate on the appropriating portion of the bill to an hour and a half. The motion was agreed to. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Post-office Appropriation bill. Its consideration was continued in evening session. Without having disposed of the bill the House at 10 o'clock adjourned.

FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS— SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.

In the U. S. Senate, on the 10th, the "Anti-Silver Coinage bill came up in order, but was postponed until the 11th, and the Pension Appropriation bill was considered, and passed substantially as reported by the Senate Committee. All the legislative measures found in the bill as it came from the House relating to the compensation of pension attorneys etc., were struck out, the Senate having already passed a special bill containing those provisions. The bill now goes back to the House. The House bill repealing the Pre-emption and Timber Culture laws was considered, pending which the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate, on the 11th, the Army Appropriation Bill was reported. The bill to repeal the Pre-emption and Timber Culture laws was considered. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate, on the 12th, the Chair announced as the Senate committee to arrange for the coming inauguration Messrs. Sherman, Hawley and Ransom. The bill repealing the Pre-emption and Timber Culture laws and the Army Appropriation bill was passed with amendments, which sent them back to the House. The Texas Land Grant Forfeiture bill was taken up, pending which the Senate went into executive session, and, a few minutes later, adjourned.

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