

WORDS.

I cannot tell what I would tell thee,
What I would say, what thou shouldst hear;

Words of the soul that should compel thee,
Words of the heart to draw thee near.

For when thou smilest, thou, who fillest
My life with joy, and I would speak,
'Tis then my lips and tongue are stillest,
Knowing all language is too weak.

Look in my eyes; read there confession:
The truest love has least of art;
Nor needs it words for its expression
When soul speaks soul and heart speaks heart.

—Madison Cavein, in Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly.

A DEATH-DEALING HAND.

Upon the evening of December 3, 1881, as the hand on the Wimbledon station clock was nearing 7, the London train steamed in, and among the passengers who alighted from it was a man wearing a long overcoat, with a bag over his arm, and carrying a small black bag in his hand.

His face was refined and handsome. He was young—only about 30. His forehead was broad, and marked by many lines like that of a man who has been accustomed to hard study. The eyes, beneath delicately pencilled brows, were dark and penetrating, and yet tender in expression. He wore whiskers, and a long, drooping mustache helped to conceal a rather weak, feminine mouth. It was a face calculated to impress one favorably, especially when the eyes were lit up and animated. Now, however, as he made his way along the platform under the gas lamps, his eyes had deep rims round them, and, with the sallow color of the face, told of ill-health and harassment.

The man, indeed, was ill. He could not sleep. Could one have turned up his sleeve and examined his arm one would have found there the marks of recent wounds caused by the too frequent use of morphia injections. Reported to in order that he might obtain rest.

Some months back, in 1879, a relation, a brother-in-law of this man had died suddenly, mysteriously, and since that time sleep had almost deserted the large, dark, tender-looking eyes of the handsome traveler.

A very short distance from Wimbledon station was a large building situated in its own grounds. It was a school carried on by a gentleman named Bedbrook. To this house the man took his way, and to the servant who answered the door he announced himself as Dr. Lamson, who had called to see his brother-in-law, one of the pupils, a lad of 18. In a few minutes Dr. Lamson and Mr. Bedbrook were chatting together in the sitting room when the door opened and a lad appeared, bearing in his arms another boy, whose healthy-colored cheeks and laughing eyes seemed in strange contrast to the evident helplessness of his lower paralyzed limbs.

were spread abroad that death was not due to natural causes, but had been brought about by a murderer's hand. Dr. Lamson's name was mentioned in connection with them, and a detective was sent to Paris to find him.

Five days later a cab drove up to the door of Scotland Yard, a gentleman got out, and then turned to assist a lady to alight. The two entered the building—the headquarters of those whose lives are spent in unravelling the mysteries of crime and following with steps of vengeance the perpetrators of dark deeds.

"I have called," said the gentleman, "in reference to the case of the death of a boy at Wimbledon. I wish to see the person who has the matter in hand."

In a moment or two one of the inspectors was with him. "My name," the stranger said, "is Lamson—George Henry Lamson. I have been staying in Paris, and I have read in the papers an account of the death of a boy named Percy Malcolm John. My name has been connected. The inspector appeared troubled, and asked the doctor to wait a moment while he left the room. He returned in a short time.

"Dr. Lamson," he said, "your case has been considered, and I am instructed to charge you with causing the death of Percy Malcolm John."

Not a muscle stirred in Lamson's pale face, as he heard these words, which told him he would have to answer with his life the terrible charge preferred against him, though the ashen gray features, if possible took a grayer tinge. He elevated his eyebrows as if in surprise.

"Very well," was all he answered. If John's death was not due to natural causes, of what did he die? The question was a difficult one. Poison? The doctors feared. But what poison? Portions of the body were sent up to London, and there, over the ghastly sealed up jars, secured with many pieces of red tape and red sealing wax, which contained, if murder had been done, the clue to bring it home to its perpetrator, two of the cleverest analysts, Dr. Stevenson and Dr. Dupre, were soon busily employed.

By numberless experiments, by days and nights of careful observation, the analysts came to the conclusion that poison had been used, and that the poison was acconitine. The test of poison was not omitted. Dr. Stevenson put some of the suspected matter on his tongue. At first there was a burning tingling, kind of numbness, and later on the tongue felt as if it had been seared with a red-hot iron. So great was the effect that the doctor's tongue suffered for over three hours.

"It was acconitine," said Dr. Stevenson. "I have between 50 and 80 valuable poisons in my possession, and I have tasted them all. This is acconitine."

It is a curious fact that in a box belonging to Lamson, the police, on searching, discovered a medical book giving an account of the effects of acconitine. The leaf of the work had been turned down. The sleuth-hounds of the law went to work upon the trail the analysis afforded, and soon had to hand results which promised to confirm the worst suspicions.

He had purchased acconitine of two chemists—once at Ventnor, in the Isle of Wight, and again in London. He had had to give his name before the deadly poison could be handed to him, and the assistant who supplied him remembered his face.

The cause of Percy John's death was clear. Lamson had had poison of the kind in his possession. Had he, that December night when he called to see the poor lad, while talking with him and the schoolmaster in the sitting room, introduced the fatal white powder into the capsule he handed the boy, seen him swallow it, and then gone off on that long night journey to Paris so that, should any suspicion arise, he might by voluntarily returning from abroad, disarm it?

Jury took their way from the box, and the crowd in court slowly filed out discussing the points of the day's evidence, a little fragile woman's figure stole from a seat where it had hidden, listening—who shall tell how anxiously?—to all that passed, and stole toward the dock. Then Lamson leaped over the dock's edge, the white, woman's face smiled at the faithful woman's deadly and gray countenance turned up to him, and stretching out his hand—the hand accused of such an awful deed—the woman took it and pressed it to her lips.

The evidence against him was terrible enough. A queer accident which happened while Lamson was being driven from prison in a cab to the court one day impressed more than any evidence could, with the feeling that Lamson was a doomed man. The cab in which he and his custodians were broke down almost at the door of the court. It was regarded as an omen.

At last the day came which brought the verdict which all, save Lamson himself, had come to accept as inevitable. "I declare before God that I am innocent," he said with a stern effort to preserve his composure. The next moment he staggered back with the look of a trapped animal in his eyes as he heard the judge's tones pronouncing the sentence of death.

He confessed his awful crime before he died. It was suspected, though it was never proven for certain, that Herbert John, Percy's brother, whose death had banished sleep from Lamson's eyes, had also died by the same deadly hand.

BREAKFAST WITH GOMEZ.

Feasts an American Correspondent Like Marlon Treated the Britisher.

One morning the general invited me to breakfast with him, writes Thomas R. Dawley, Jr., in Frank Leslie's. In honor of the occasion I donned a coat which I had been carefully guarding in my pack to use on my return to the Spanish lines, for I was already beginning to be in uniform with the ragged rebels. As I crawled under the General's canvas, he offered me the luxury of a camp stool. He sat in his hammock made of bed-ticking, and complimented me by calling me a veteran accustomed to the hardships attending a military career. I amused the old chieftain by relating some of my escapades, and he in return explained his tactics, of which he seemed very proud. He said that the Spaniards never knew where he was, and when they did know, he was gone.

While we conversed one of the assistants brought an armful of green twigs and leaves and spread them on the ground at our feet. When I saw him place four plates with knives and forks on the leaves, I concluded that the latter was intended for a tablecloth. A frying-pan containing a stew of meat and beans was placed in the center, and dishes containing sweet potatoes and beefsteak were added, with a gourd of honey. Breakfast was announced as ready, and we were joined by the adjutant-general and a young lieutenant who had been with Gomez from the beginning of the insurrection. They seated themselves on the ground and while the General attentively helped me from the fryingpan they helped themselves.

Our conversation ran upon different topics of the day, from the reported landing of a filibustering expedition, to the cast of Moroto, a Spanish newspaper correspondent who had recently made his way into the Cuban camp and narrowly escaped being hanged.

The breakfast concluded with the sweet potatoes, which the General passed to me, swearing them with honey as he did so. He explained that this was our dessert. Then we were served with coffee as black as tar. General Gomez drank his portion from a silver mug, and I received a cup made of a cow's horn. We sweetened the coffee with honey, and sipped it as the old General explained to me the workings of the Cuban civil government, the existence of which was such a mooted question in the United States. He assured me that the government did exist, calling upon his adjutant to corroborate his statements. I asked him about the capital, and he said the government didn't need a capital any more than he did. They made the laws, and everyone had to respect and obey them. Even himself, Gomez, was controlled by those laws, and he dared not degrade an officer nor hang a criminal without submitting him to a court-martial according to law.

Kicked by Kansas Insect.

It was during one of those beautiful Indian summer days in October for which Kansas is noted that Daniel Duval, a well-to-do farmer of Phillips County, received a kick in the eye from a grasshopper, with the result that for some weeks there was great fest that he would not recover the sight of the eye.

This athletic feat on the part of the insect does not mean that grasshoppers grow to such a size out in Phillips County that they can assail the inhabitants while sitting on the ground. The one of which Mr. Duval is indebted for a badly inflamed eye was considerably above the average grasshopper in size, and was speeding through the air when the farmer's face unluckily crossed its path. The result was that it struck the farmer in the right eye with as much precision as if shot from a gun by an American naval gunner. The eyeball was badly lacerated. —Chicago Inter Ocean.

A "confjress" in India says she can change from woman to man and back again at will.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The basket supposed to hold the remains of Christopher Columbus was found to contain some dust and thirty bones. As there are 204 bones in the adult skeleton, Spain appears to have once more gotten the worst of a transaction.

The Skaguay Railroad is finished to the top of the White Pass, but it is hard to keep the workmen from running away whenever they hear of a new find. If they are sensible they will just keep on driving spikes. There is more gold in working for miners than there is in gold mining.

It is reported that the government of the Transvaal has expended nearly \$4,000,000 since 1894 in trying to convince the European press and European officials to prevent the leasing of Delagoa Bay to Great Britain. This will be cheerful news for the Uitlanders, from whom the \$4,000,000 was squeezed in taxes.

The Iron Age, in dwelling upon a noticeable industrial tendency, says: A perfect craze is developing for consolidation, aided largely by the eagerness of bankers to promote such undertakings. They seem to be outbidding one another, and encourage the disposition to put fancy valuations on moribund properties.

A man in Vienna, Austria, squandered his fortune. His wife said to him: "John, go and shoot yourself, so that I may get the insurance money." He did, but recovered. Some time later she said: "John, you were too stupid to shoot yourself properly; go and hang yourself." He did, this time with success. How's that for husbandly obedience?

The young Queen of Holland is already showing signs of the independence of character which her mother and instructors have observed in her. Since her accession she has steadily shown initiative in affairs of state. She has recently cancelled two designs for a new coinage, on the ground that her own likeness was in one case too old and in the other too young.

There are 15,000,000 pupils in the common schools and high schools of the United States maintained by the proceeds of taxation, and the school expenses of the country, taken collectively, were \$190,000,000 last year, the United States expending more on the education of children than any other country in the world. There are 400,000 school teachers in the United States, a larger number than in any other two countries of the world.

An American telephone official, who has just returned from a trip to Europe, says that in France and Germany the telephone service is poor. In the northern part of the continent the service was good, and the rental cheap. England, while backward, as it always appears to be in the early stages of its adoption of electrical applications, promises to soon come to the front. In Sweden the best exchanges are in some respects far ahead of those in this country.

The practice of honesty and of open accounting in the handling of public revenues is naturally a novelty to the average Cuban mind. Centuries of Spanish misrule and corruption have made the appropriation of public money to the private purse familiar through example. But honesty is the first lesson in the art of self-government that the Cubans must learn; and the sooner this primary political education begins the better. The requirement of estimates for public work and of official sanction for appropriations may seem hard to the local officials of Santiago; but resistance to so just and fair a rule would be worse than folly.

In the board schools of Great Yarmouth, England, there has been for several years a children's Hyacinth Mission, its idea being to supply the children for the nominal payment of a penny with a choice hyacinth bulb, a good plant, which they are to cultivate at home and bring back later to be exhibited at a flower show organized for the purpose. The East London Horticultural Society has adopted a similar plan and is organizing the children's Chrysanthemum Mission, being aided in the work by the assistance of the school teachers. Such efforts must tend to brighten many a home, some in much need of brightening, and it would seem as if they might advantageously be adopted in other countries, this included.

Glasgow, Scotland, is occasionally referred to in American newspapers as a city that has demonstrated the success of municipal ownership of public utilities and the possibility of government without taxation. Glasgow has municipal ownership, of its lighting plants, street railways and some other public service enterprises. It is managing them successfully. Both the lighting plant and the street railway system give service at low rates and also turn into the public treasury considerable sums as profit. The amounts so turned in are by no means sufficient to pay all the expenses of municipal government, however. That policy would not be pursued in Glasgow, for instead of making enormous profits for private city the course taken would be to over the rates for service to the people.

England has in the Mediterranean thirty-nine warships, of which ten are iron-clads of the first class; on the coast of the Atlantic she has thirteen, of which nine are first class iron-clads, in her own waters she can muster twenty-two war vessels, ten being iron-clads; and in her dock yards she has another one hundred and fifty lighting vessels of various types. Besides all these she has in American waters thirteen warships; in the East Indies, nine; in West African ports,

sixteen; in China, twenty-eight; in the Pacific, seven others; and in Australia, two. It will be seen, says La Petit Marseillais, that this constitute a naval force so formidable as to justify Great Britain's pretensions of being in a position to successfully cope with a coalition of the three greatest and best-equipped naval powers of Europe.

The farmer's interest in improved roads and agricultural machinery is vital to his margin of profit, says the New York Commercial Advertiser. Calculations have been made showing that had roads increase his expenses for repair of vehicles, horseshoeing and repair of harness seriously diminishing his returns. His horses wear out more quickly, and the increased expense of caring for them is added to the loss of from two to four years' productive work that could otherwise be obtained from them. Whether he will be able to remove these disadvantages by vehicles that eliminate the cost of a horse and its keep, that can be used in reaping his crops, carrying his produce to market and affording convenient transport for his family, is a question as certain to be tested as is the practicability of auto-motors for city use. As fit roads would be indispensable, it is plain that the rural population should not be left under disabilities greater in this respect than those of urban communities. Besides, there can be no division of interest without injury to both. Success of auto-motors for city use is certain eventually to extend their application to the country and to raise the issue of road improvement in a form that will call for government aid.

The tendency on the part of blithely unsuspected articles to explode is on the increase. We have got accustomed to hearing that the kitchen stove has blown up, and with it the maid who tried to facilitate her work with kerosene, and even the innocent looking soda water fountain has been known to fly into fragments, but to this list has been added an article that is the specious delight of every household, especially where small children are concerned. In Watertown, Mass., the other day, a local paper states, an estimable lady lost an eye by the explosion of a doughnut, which, in the process of frying, filled with gas and annihilated itself. However dangerous to safety the doughnut might be after being eaten, it has always been supposed that it was harmless and good to look upon while in process of construction, and its fragrance was as reminiscent of home and mother as that of a mince pie. It now seems that it has not even this virtue.

They are having trouble in Australia with feathers. The custom department to prevent the slaughter of birds made it compulsory to have all feathers passed through the customs house classified, but when action came to be taken, it was found that with the artificial feathers and so-called feathers of one bird made from those of an entirely different one, not much could be done unless the customs house was turned into a department of natural history with a professor of ornithology in charge. It would also be necessary to open all packages of feathers and examine all kinds of millinery, and the gentlemen in charge of the department found themselves in something of a dilemma. It was stated then that the egret and osprey were seldom used on account of their price, \$5 an ounce. Heron feathers are frequently made of whalebone, so the makers claimed, and porcupine bristles make beautiful egret. "Wings plucked from live birds to preserve their colors" are made from the wings of the domestic duck. That is what they say in Australia. There are certainly many milliners in this country who now assert that they have only the feathers of domestic fowls, excepting, of course, the ostrich plume.

Queer Money in Abyssinia.

The few travelers who have taken the time and trouble to look into Menek's queer kingdom of Abyssinia tell strange tales of it. Besides the Marie Theresa, 1,780 dollars, the people of Abyssinia, for small change, use a bar of hard crystallized salt, about ten inches long and two inches and a half broad, and thick, slightly tapering toward the end, five of which go to the dollar at the capital. People are very particular about the standard of fineness of the currency. If it does not ring like metal, or if it is at all clipped, nothing will induce them to take it. Then, it is a token of affection among the natives, when friends meet, to give each other a lick of their respective amolls, and in this way the maternal value of the bar is also decreased. For still smaller change cartridges are used, of which three go to one salt. It does not matter what sort they are. Some sharpers use their cartridges in the ordinary way, and then put in some salt and a dummy bullet to make up the difference, or else they take out the powder and put the bullet in again, so that possibly in the next action the unhappy seller will find that he has only miss-fires in his belt; but this is such a common fraud that no one takes any notice of it, and a bad cartridge seems to serve as readily as a good one.—Philadelphia Press.

Inexhaustible Cement Supply.

It is stated that the deposit of Portland cement discovered near Owen Sound, Ontario, and the manufacture of which was begun in 1889, is proving practically inexhaustible, and the daily capacity of the factory will soon be increased to 300 barrels. The prevailing price is \$2.10 per barrel of 350 pounds net. The product is claimed to be fully equal to the English, German or Belgian article, and it is said, will eventually take the place of importations to Canada, at least.—Philadelphia Record.

Profits of a Million Dollars.

Pittsburg, Pa. (Special).—Not profits of the Pittsburg Plate Glass Company for the past year announced at the annual meeting have been more than \$1,000,000. The management of the company has decided to erect a plant for the manufacture and repair of the equipment.

Spain.—Red Book on the War. Madrid, (By Cable).—The government has issued a red book on the war with the United States. It is a volume of 322 pages, but its contents are documents and communications already made public, and now have only historical interest.

TO CRUSH FILIPINOS.

Gen. Otis is to Move at Once on Malolos.

A DECISIVE CAMPAIGN.

Cabinet Reaches the Conclusion That Aguinaldo's Forces Must Be Made to Lay Down Their Arms Before There Can Be Security and Order on the Islands.

WASHINGTON, D. C., (Special).—The campaign against the Filipinos is to be prosecuted with vigor.

The question was fully discussed at Tuesday's cabinet meeting, and the conclusion was reached that before permanent peace or security to life and property could be obtained in the islands Aguinaldo's forces must be made to lay down their arms. It is expected that General Otis, in co-operation with Admiral Dewey, will push forward at once and give the natives no chance to recover from their defeat. He is to be occupied at once by the American land and naval forces, and General Otis is to move immediately on Malolos, the insurgent capital, and capture or disperse the so-called Filipino government. Malolos is about fifteen miles from Manila.

The more closely the Filipinos are pressed and the more rigorous and determined the campaign, it is said, the sooner peace may be expected.

General Miller now has with him at Iloilo the Eighteenth Infantry and a battalion of artillery. It is likely that he will be strongly reinforced, though he now has enough men to capture the city.

Secretary Alger has sent the following telegram to General Otis: Accept my best congratulations upon your magnificent victory of Sunday, all the more creditable because you were not the aggressor.

Naval officers have watched with pride the achievements of the warships during the recent fighting, and they were gratified when Secretary Long sent the following telegram: Dewey, Manila: Congratulations, Long.

Though the Filipinos seek to create the impression that the Americans, by firing upon natives who were running the guard lines, really took the initiative in the fighting, no person conversant with military law, it is said at the War Department, could question the duty imposed upon the American guards of firing upon the natives. Just a week prior to the outbreak some Filipinos who had gotten through the lines sought to assassinate some American soldiers.

EAGAN NOT TO BE DISMISSED.

Sentence Commuted to a Suspension From Rank and Duty for Six Years.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—The President ceased to be promulgated the sentence in the case of General Charles P. Eagan. The court-martial sentence was dismissed from the army, and the President has commuted this to six years' suspension from duty, which covers the remainder of the time prior to General Eagan's retirement, in January, 1905.

The following is the text of the order of the President: "The accused, after a trial by a court-martial, composed of officers of high rank and distinguished services, has been found guilty of conduct unworthy an officer holding a commission of the United States and obnoxious, in the highest degree, to the discipline and good order of the military establishment. Such behavior is especially deserving of condemnation in an officer holding high rank in the army and charged with the performance of difficult and important administrative duties in a time of great public emergency, and from whom, when subject to adverse criticism, an unusual degree of restraint and constant and unflinching self-control are confidently expected.

DRIFTERS INQUIRY ENDED.

Criminal Section of Court of Cassation Declares Case Closed.

Paris, (By Cable).—The criminal section of the Court of Cassation has concluded its inquiry into the Dreyfus trial and formally declared it closed. It will now refer the whole matter, with the new light developed during the inquiry, to the procurator-general, who will be required to report his opinion to the criminal section of the Court of Cassation, which will pronounce a decision unless the government's revision bill is adopted.

In that case the matter will go before the United Courts of Cassation, instead of before the criminal section alone.