

COMPOSITIONS.

"My dear Teacher Toads are funny Things they have long legs and they can leap very far they sleep on the ground and grassy banks of Brooks they get there Food by slyness they will lie down in the Sun where the Grasshoppers come they lie their and appear to be asleep and a Grasshopper comes Up and all at once they feel themselves caught and Swallowed the color of the toad is Brown with black strips all up and down its Back. its eyes are green with green Eyelids. I cant write any more so good Bye Willie L. Edwards."

"That's very good, indeed," said Walter's mother; "but I see a good many mistakes in spelling. Hadn't you better correct them?" "O, no! The teacher'll mark 'em," he replied, carelessly. Walter's was not as long. It was as follows:

"My dear teacher A Toad has four legs and is a harmless creature, the toad can spit fire see how he tries to get out of your way the Toad is very usefull his neck is all the time going in and out it hops along as pleasantly as ever some bad boys like to plague the poor thing and it has tow eyes like we have if you Handle the toad you will have wats and it has a little head so good by "Walter James Simmons."

Rev. Henry Highland Garrett, D. D., formerly of Avery College, Allegheny City, but now pastor of Shiloh church, New York city, has been invited to assume the office of President of Acon University at Rodney, Miss., vice ex-Senator Revels, at the salary of \$2500 and a furnished house; but owing to the struggling condition of his church, Dr. Garrett has felt it his duty to accept the flattering offer.

A HACK-DRIVER was made happy in Illinois the other day by receiving an appointment to the Military Academy at West Point. The appointment was made by competitive examination, and the young hack-driver, whose name is Murphy, whose age is twenty-one years and who never attended school but two years and a half, carried off the prize from fifteen competitors. The jubilant Jehu is said to have been an ornament to his calling. He neither drinks, smokes, nor chews, and he has employed his leisure time in study. Such a man can hardly be spared from the hack-driving fraternity, but if his success shall have the effect to stimulate his brethren in the profession to a sober and studious behavior, his absence from the box will be no small gain to the traveling community.

A LARGE number of the ablest physicians in New York and vicinity have just signed a paper expressing their opinion that alcoholic liquors is not only the cause of a large proportion of our crime and pauperism, but that alcohol should be regarded as a dangerous and powerful drug and its traffic confined by law to the purposes of medicine, science and the arts. When Drs. Delafield, A. Clark, Willard Parker, C. R. Agnew, Stephen Smith, A. C. Post and many other such men sign such a paper, we may be pardoned for believing Maine Law men are not all ignorant bigots.

READ "Whately's Rhetoric."—Read ten pages a day, then turn back and read them carefully again before you put the book by. You will find it a very pleasant book, and it will give you a great many hints for clear and simple expression which you are not so likely to find in any other way I know.

AN ELOQUENT PARAGRAPH.—John Stuart Mill's great work on "Liberty" was dedicated to his wife in this most touching and eloquent paragraph, embodying as great a compliment as was ever paid a woman by mortal man:

"To the beloved and deplored memory of her who was the inspirer and in part the author of all that is best in my writings—the friend and wife whose exalted sense of truth and right was my strongest incitement, and whose approbation was my chief reward—I dedicate this volume. Like all I have written for many years it belongs as much to her as to me; but the work as it stands has had, in a very insufficient degree, the inestimable advantage of her revision; some of the most important portions having been reserved for a more careful re-examination, which they are now destined never to receive. Were I but capable of interpreting to the world one-half the great thoughts and noble feelings which are buried in her grave, I should be the medium of a greater benefit to it than is ever likely to arise from any thing that I can write, unassisted and unprompted by her all but unrivaled wisdom."

Mrs. Mill lies buried at Avignon, long the home of the well-mated pair and in the spring of every year since her death he has made a pilgrimage to her grave. During the last of these visits he died.

WILL IT NEVER GO OUT?—The Chicago Inter-Ocean, of April 19th, says: It is a year, six months and nine days since the fire of October 9th, 1871, and yet strange to relate, two gentlemen claim that the champion blaze of creation has not subsided yet. While a party of gentlemen yesterday were passing the ruins of the Catholic Brothers School, on Van Buren street, east of Clark, their attention was attracted by the escape of smoke, and out of curiosity, they instituted an investigation.

After making an excavation a small pile of glowing coals were reached, and when the air came in contact with it a vigorous flame burst forth. The discoverers resolved to make the fact memorable and accordingly, obtaining some potatoes, roasted them by the fire, ate a lunch, then lit some cigars at the blaze, covered the live coals over with brisk and departed.

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