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TION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR NOVEMBER WAS 94,801. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1915.

▲ man becomes learned by asking questions; but if he would not become a nuisance to his friends, he will not ask too many at one time.

RAISING THE ANTE

THE way to get the Republican convention for Philadelphia is to make it impossible for the National Committee to accept the invitation of any other city. This can be done by making the money guarantee so large that it cannot be refused without putting the committee on the defensive.

The Chamber of Commerce Convention Committee has evidently decided to raise the ante and to offer \$150,000, instead of \$100,000, to be used as the financial officers of the National Committee see fit. They will not merely guarantee to pay the expenses of the convention, as was done by Chicago in 1912. but they will raise so much money that there will be a surplus for general campaign purposes.

A hundred and fifty thousand dollars talks the language which every National Committeeman can understand, even if it is not his mother tongue. There remains time enough to secure the subscriptions needed to raise this amount... The public-spirited men of the city will doubtless dig down in their pockets between today and Monday night and send their pledges to those in charge of raising the fund.

LAWS TO PROTECT OUR NEUTRALITY

THE Attorney General is most restrained L when he says in his discussion of needed changes in the neutrality laws that "In two or three respects immediate action seems necessary."

There is at present no adequate law under which the Government may seize and retain munitions being exported in disregard of such an embargo proclamation as the Fresident made against the shipment of arms and ammunition to Mexico. And there is no law under which the Government may seize weapons collected for an armed invasion of another country from our territory.

There is no national law, either, making it a crime to place bombs or other explosives on a ship sailing from United States ports with the intent to destroy the vessel at sea, nd the Covernment has no express author ity to arrest and punish a person who escapes from an interned ship of a beiligerent nation.

When Congress acts upon the recommendation of Mr. Gregory it will be possible to punish in the United States courts the plotters agains the safety of our commerce, and it will be easier also to prevent complications arising out of the attempted participation of Americans in insurrections in the small countries bordering on the Gulf of Mexico. The need of laws covering these points is so evident that no argument should be required to persuade Congress of its duty.

INEXCUSABLE DELAY ON PARKWAY

to the indictment of delay found by the City Parks Association. Progress upon the Parkway has been so slow that it has become almost a public scandal. The beautiful street, marked in green on the maps, impresses the outsider with the wise policy of this community in bringing the great Fairmount Park to the City Hall; but when the stranger comes here and finds that the Parkway has no real existence save upon a map he is disappointed, not to say disgusted.

Mayor Smith has an opportunity to do many things during his administration, but there is nothing that he can do that will make so deep an impress upon the people who are working for city beautification as the completion of this boulevard with its trees and grass plots. The erection of the proposed public buildings upon it should not be rushed too fast. They can wait till the setting for them is ready.

THE HERO OF ANDALUSIA

Till act of Samuel Crowther, of Anda-lusia, in holding up the Pennsylvania Railroad sends a thrill of envy through the heart of every less courageous man. When the railroad track was blockaded by the wreck of two trains running by his farm the freight was thrown over the fence on his land to clear the way for the wrecking enlines and to let other trains through. But when the trainmen tried to get the freight back into fresh cars he warned them off.

His son was killed while crossing the railroad a year ago, and there has been no settlement of his claim for damages. Until he is compensated for the life of the boy he will keep the freight. That was his purpose inst

It is not possible to defend his action by the ordinary rules of conduct. Yet what is a small farmer to do when a big corporation ignores him? There is probably not a man in the whole nation who does not wish that he had the nerve to do what Crowther has

The railroad company may have an adequate explanation for the delay in settling his claim. But that has nothing to do with the spontaneous admiration for a man who refuses to submit to what he thinks is an injustice and is quick grough to take advantage of the first opportunity to assert bimself. Murk Twain was in the habit of berailer his fellow organization for their selves.

willingness to submit to all sorts of abuses rather than make a protest. If he could reach his hand from the Elysian fields, in which his admirers hope he is now dwelling. he would grasp that of Crowther with a hearty grip and say, "Put her there, old boy! You have done the proper thing. If you do not stand up for your rights no one else

KEEP THIS NEW BUSINESS

JAMES J. HILL used to say that when the railroad sidings were crowded with loaded freight cars which could not be moved the terminal facilities were outgrown. This condition exists today on all the roads leading to the North Atlantic ports. There is so great a demand for cargo space in oceangoing ships that it cannot be met. New York has not room at her piers for the ships in her harbor. Ten or a dozen are anchored in the stream waiting for a place to dock Philadelphia is less crowded, but the export business of this city last mouth was larger than ever before in the history of the port. Fourteen million two hundred thousand dollars' worth of goods were shipped abroad in the thirty days ending on November 30, or more than \$3,000,000 in excess of the amount for the same period last year. But we could

The rollroad traffic managers have already decided to make greater use of this city. Arrangements have been perfected for sending here two of the ships for which there is no room in New York, and more will come We are to get some, if not all, of the

overflow. It is up to the Transportation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce and the Director of the Port to keep the new business. The opportunity to demonstrate the advantakes offered here was never better. There is no need of lighterage. The railroads run directly to the piers and freight can be transferred from the cars to the hold of the ships for much less than it costs in New York The difference in our favor is great enough to compensate for the long sail up

the Delaware to the plers on the water front. Those who think that the port here is merely a local affair, of no concern to any one outside of Philadelphia, would do well to change their views quickly and join with the great majority of forward-looking citi zens who are engaged in boosting the trade of the nation by boosting the trade of that part of it where they live.

AMERICAN HUMOR

THE Philosopher of Archey Road is asked I to move over a little and share a place in the shade with the critics of Wasserbauer's Restaurant. Fortunately Mr. Dooley is used to it. Since his early days he has shared places with many men of many minds. and few of them have been more amusing, more critical and delightful than Messrs. Birsky and Zapp, concerning whom much is printed on another page of the EVENING Larrence today.

It is almost a sin to be serious in the presence of these humorists; but there is a little something to be said about them which is not so apparent, although it is as pleasant, as their humor. As surely as Hosea Biglow, Mr. Dooley is American. As surely as Petroleum V. Nasby, Messrs. Birsky and Zapp are Americans. And the good thing to note is that under their accents and eccentricities, they are interested in precisely the things which interest Americans, without foreign preoccupations, without the obession of their own strangeness.

Surely, in the midst of internal perils and dissensions, these American humorists reassure us a bit. Some of the metal in the pot is unyielding, but it melts, it melts!

NEVER TOO OLD TO BEGIN

THE difference between a man and a horse I is that the horse never thinks that he is too old to begin. Take the case of Billy Dispute, a racing animal which has won considerable money on the trotting circuit. His identity was in doubt, for some experts were sure that he was a "ringer," racing under false pretenses. The board of review of the National Trotting Association made a careful investigation, and discovered that he was just a plain horse that had been driven to a baker's wagon for seven years and that he did not start on his racing career till he was 12 years old. The board decided that he was entitled both to his name and to his winnings.

Billy Dispute was not worried about his age. He could trot, and he trotted as though he were in his prime. If he were asked to write his philosophy of life he would doubtless say that all a horse knows or needs toknow is that it is a disgrace to take the dust of any other animal on the road. Too many men say to themselves, "Oh, what's the use?" and settle down into a jog trot when they get to be 35 and let older but no abler men who have only just discovered that they were gifted with speed leave them far in the rear.

Hungary is tired of the war and is willing

It begins to look as if the fight for transit

Columbus has discovered the President, but must understand that he is not all

"U. S. Seeks Light on Searching of Ships."-

Searchlights?

No one except the canners will regret that the war has raised the price of benzoate of soda to \$5 a pound.

It seems to be known in France, if not here, that Philadelphia is the greatest textile manufacturing centre in the world.

British labor unions have united to hattle for their wages, thereby giving the country a lesson on how to battle for its life.

When you look at those finger prints you cannot blame the Norristawn jury for refusing to convict a man on their unsupported Sir Wilfred Laurier is unduly pessimistic

if he thinks that if the Germans win the war Canada will be ruled by the Kaiser. He forgets that there is such a thing as the Monroe Doctrine.

When Mr. Ford sits in Mr. Carnegie's peace palace at The Hague, if he ever gets there, he might devote a few minutes to thinking about the few things on which mere money can talk with good effect.

The President says that America must preserve its polse and self-possession. It's all right about the poise, but between British seizures and German submarines our possendons seem to be slipping away from our-

Tom Daly's Column

What memories cling around it! Such quaint curved frame, such hallowed atone,

This clod who took my money, I wonder why folks get so doft bout such jank," he said, and laughed As though he thought it funny.

Poor wretch, indeed! What soul had he To confure up the spirit Of kindly cheer and olden grace That once endowed that fireplace, And still is hovering near it?

How could I help but love it? and so I've stored my prise meny igainst the coming of that day

And you, my friends, you, too, shall bless The happy day I found it, For I'll invite you all to call As soon as I've the wherewithal To build a house around it.

The German Chancellor, we gather, posttively refuses to consider peace until the rest of the world gets down on its knees. The American munition plants, especially, must

The flute solo was played by Herman Schlimm, of the editorial engraving department, and the horn solo by R. M. Sullivan, of the machinery repair department.—From report of the concert of the Curtis Orchestro. Did Mr. Sullivan play the "Anvil Chorus"?

Social and Business Forms

Copyright, Thus E. Hill, Chicago, 1882.

between Professor Hill and the reader, but, being somewhat conscious of remissness, we trust we will be pardoned if we horn in here (an expression unknown in the professor's day) to make a little apology.



This work of art has aroused the enthusiasm of poets and humorists. When Gelett Burgess, the purple cowboy, first looked upon it in the company of some

He stared at the Pacific-and all his men Looked at each other with a wild surmise. But the next moment he was stirred to address the work of art, quoting the opening lines of Shelley's "Ode to a Skylark"

Hall to thee, blithe spirit!

git a Bible fur Chris'mus.

Perfectly Proper Petey and Punky

Said Petey Dink to Punky Dunk: "Would it be naughty to get drunk?" Said Punky Dunk to Petey Dink

The Contractor Speaks

bled at the cornerstone laying. It Saturday in the month of May, had his hat on. When the papers, and a parchment copy of the Old Testament were placed where they belonged and the stone swung into place, the chairman took it on himself to ask the contractor for a few words. This happened in a city where the EVENING LEDGER is read, and as the contractor still has his good health—Umbaschriea!—I'll not

mplimints to yer 'umble servint, but I'd be thousand times more obliged if he let me , bekase I didn't come prepared to make a speech. Besides, those who has proceeded me covered the ground O. K. However, I want to say right here an now that all ye foke will get dollar for dollar on this contract. (Much applause.) An furthermore, that the work will all be finished ahead iv time. I didn't intind to may anything about a little matter I have in me mind till later on, but as I'm on me feet I'll give it to ye now. The contract doesn't call for me to have the job done before last day of nixt Jane-u-arry, but I'm going to promise right here and now-and I defy the man who ever said I broke me word-that I'll have ye in here to hold yer first service n Krismis mornin'!" Kelt.

And here comes this-now-Montague Glass with yet another story again. His first discussion of current topics through his manikins, Zapp and Birsky, plentifully blesses another page of this paper. Here's a health to Potash, Perimutter, Zapp. Birsky

Above Par

indred mark."
"Gee, Ma! They call me an angel now."
D. A. H.

JUST WONDERING IF THIS TEACHES A CHILD THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAN

FIRESIDE DREAMS An old colonial fireplace!

I'd often dreamed that I might own, And now at last I've found it.

It graced a sporting squire's halt-Those pegs once held his rifle-Long years before the sordid clown, Who bought the mansion, tore it down And sold this for a triffe.

He was, in truth, a sordid wretch,

But I who've storved in rented flats, When I'll be master of it.

not remain standing. And Was It Common or Overtime?

Hill's Manual

We feel we should not too often interpose

It is as an expert penman and flourisher that Professor Hill is to coruscate conspicuously in the corridors of time, and we should, therefore, have presented him, in propria persona, ere this, but we have been handicapped by our inability to select from wealth of material that specimen of his handicraft which best trumpets his genius. At last, we believe, we have found it

friends he was

Here we were to have cited some of the professor's choicest specimens of letterwriting, but we have exhausted our space. They will keep for another occasion.

Overdoing It

Chimmie-"Say, did youre see de cover on de Sattad'y Eve. Post dis week?" "Yeh, an' if dat kid ain't careful he'll

We've renewed the acquaintance of that prodigal tilefish-prodigal that is to say, in the sense of coming back home after having been away awhile. The creature seems to have grown stingy while it was absent from us, for we're sure it used to give bigger portions of itself than we got at Dooner's yes-

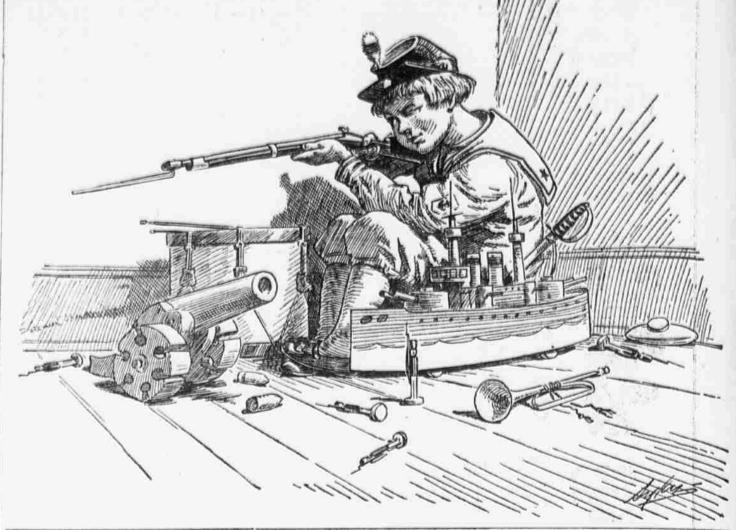
Two or three thousand people were assem-

mention his name, and for the best of reasons keep under cover myself.
"It was very dacint in the worthy chair-min," the contractor responded, "to pay thim

und die ganze mespocha!

The son of a Swarthmore clergyman brought home his monthly report card and was criticised by his mother because of the low marks on several studies. "Look here, son, there is certainly no excuse for a mark of 85 per cent. on deportment; you ought always to have a

From the intest commerce reports comes a



INDIA, COVETED JEWEL OF THE EAST

Renewal of Struggle of Three Centuries Ago for Possession of This Oriental Treasure House-"India," Said Peter the Great, "Means Supremacy in Europe"

conquest and imperial power from Berlin to Bagdad, and on through Mesopotamia to the head of the Persian Gulf, even to Britain's Asian treasure house of wealth, seems too vast an undertaking, with foes on every side, foes behind and before; but the bigger the task and the more stupendous the effort the stronger seems the appeal to the war managers of Germany. Thirteen months ago the well-known General von Bernhardi-shall we not call him "publicist"?-named India as certain goal of the Teuton armies. "We shall go to India," he said, "and the native peoples will welcome us." Here in America we have heard vague rumors of unrest in the British dominions in Asia. London has heard them, to the great discomfiture of the censors and the imperilment of editorial writers. When Kitchener departed eastward England and America were quick to believe that his destination was India-

But the Teutonic designs on India are older. They are at least as old as the "Berlin-to-Bagdad" project. The Bagdad Rallroad is Germany's "Suez Canal," the symbol of her dreams for empire eastward, the connecting link from Berlin to the Persian Gulf -and beyond lies India, the pearl of the British Empire's crown. From the standpoint of war strategy, India, as Von Bernhardi said, is England's feet of clay. Several years ago the London Times thundered a to the British Government and the British people. "The maintenance of British supremacy on the Persian Gulf closely affects the future of British rule in India. * The revived interest in the Bagdad Railway is of vital importance to Indian interests. * * * The greatest fear of those interested in the welfare of India is that, amid the absorbing preoccupations of domestic problems, Indian problems, both external and Internal, may not receive the attention they deserve at the hands of the British public.'

Peter the Great's Injunction

And what of Russian ambitions? The history of the nineteenth century is filled with the rivalry of Great Britain and Russia, as poignant and as relentlessly pursued on both sides as any rivalry in ancient or modern times. It concerns not only Constantinople but India also. Some of it has been written in the strangling of Persla, but its concluding chapter has not yet appeared. Neither side has vanquished the other. They are now allies, but both cannot win, because both aim -or did aim, until a few months ago-at the same thing: England to keep India, Russia to wrest it from her and add it to her own

France and England struggled for posses sion of India. Peter the Great of Russia dreamed of a far-stretching empire balance! between Europe and Asia, with Constantinople, the capital of the Caesars for 1100 years, as the capital of Russia, and left to his successors the following injunction: "Keep in mind that the commerce of India is the commerce of the world, and that he who can exclusively control it is the dictator of Europe." This injunction has never been

quite forgotten. But the Russian Bear has been softly and steadily moving eastward ever since, eastward toward India. Profuse with expressions of friendship for Great Britain, politely acknowledging again and again that "the Persian Gulf is a British lake," blandly conceding, when invited to do so, that "circumstances make it necessary for Great Britain to have exclusive control over Afghan affairs, Afghanistan lying next to India"; cordially assenting to the wisdom of keeping Tibet, on the Indian northern frontier, an independent State; Russia has all the time tried to secure for herself by secret methods every right she has so glibly given to Great Britain, not only by word of mouth, but by

treaty, selemnly signed, sealed and delivered. "Money Graveyard of the World'

The aim of each nation that has ever sought dominion in the great region known as India has been commercial and not colonial. As Admiral Mahan pointed out in "The Problem of Asia," India constitutes a highly important "base" of military and nava power as well as an area valuable in itself. As a source of wealth it is the richest "possession" on the face of the earth. It yields annual revenues of \$500,000,000. The balance of trade is always in favor of India. As a reservoir of precious metal India is barbarically splendid. This fabulous accumulation of concrete wealth is an interesting

"ON TO India!" The cry has been raised | vast amount of interesting information concerning the absorption of treasure by this great country. India is what two different writers have called respectively "the great sink of precious metals" and the "money graveyard of the world." For twenty-five centuries there has been a constant flow of gold and silver into India from the Western nations. It has been one of the unchanging economic conditions of the world, and one which rulers of different lands, depleted for it, have tried in vain to stop.

Complaints of India's appetite for gold began in the time of the Carthagenians, who in the fourth century B. C. disposed of gold they procured from Spain to that country. Pliny tells of unavailing protests made in the first year of the Christian era of exportations of the precious metal from the Roman Empire, nearly \$15,000,000 of it being sent annually to India. Queen Elizabeth, in 1600, tried in vain to counteract the flow of gold from her country to India.

Small inroads into this enormous hoard of treasure have been made unwillingly in times of famine, but as long ago as 1864 a writer estimated that the precious metals locked up in India, in trinkets alone, amounted to \$2,000,000,000. Gold has been used through the centuries by India as other peoples have used gems and paintings and objects of art for the gorgeous ornamentation of public buildings and palaces. Gold is locked up in the treasure chambers of the princes it is used as a basis of credit for merchants and traders, and the poor people who have secreted it in nooks and crannies. as well as in the earth, have sometimes died of starvation rather than part with it.

One of the most important Maharajas of India has cannon of solid gold that precede him when he goes about. He has chairs, tables and a bed, as well as water jugs, of silver and gold. It is said that London bullion dealers have exquisitely polished bars of gold to supply the wants of Indian princes. All classes in India are affected by this spirit of hoarding. They prefer to put their savings in gold to anything else. Coins are converted into necklaces, bracelets and

Fortunes in Jewels

Immense fortunes in India are in lewels. but there is no authoritative method of computation of the extent of this form of wealth The Imperial Gazetteer of India described fifty years ago a shawl of pearls, with an arabesque border of diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds, valued at \$5,000,000. There are tales of carpets of pearls and great diamonds which have become world-famous.

Estimates and statistics which show in detail how this vast amount of treasure has reached India are interesting. By "the authentic records kept by the British Government since 1835 it is shown that \$1,500,000,000 more of gold has gone into India than has come out. In less than a century \$3,000,000,-000 of the two precious metals has been absorbed, and these figures show only a continuation of a movement going on since the days of the Phoenicians.

The Prize of the World was sought from the earliest periods of history. The attempts of Holland, Portugal and France, in the period just preceding the modern age, to secure the largest share of India's trade, form an important chapter in the history of the world. The desire to find a short route thither by sea furnished much of the impetus given to exploration during the fifteenth century and led to the achievement of Vasco da Gama. The conquest of Constantinople by the Turks had laid a heavy obstacle in the path of the overland traders. Columbus sought the Orient and found the Western Hemisphere. In the seventeenth century the famous East India Company joined in the rivalry for the trade of India and opened the way for the extension of English influence and power over the whole country. Then came that remarkable experiment of government by a commercial corporation, and it was not until the middle of the nineteenth century that this control was finally and fully transferred to the British Crown and not till then that "welfare work" for the people of India began to make substantial

India, probably, has never been well understood by Occidental peoples. British exploitation and philanthropy present a story mixed in reasons for praise and blame. Certain it is that in India may be found the most heterogeneous aggregate of peoples in the world. Mongols, Aryans, Persians, Greeks, Scythians, Huns, Arabs, Afghans, Turks and Moguls bave passed into this yast region, founding kingdoms and empires, mixing in greater or less degree with their predecessors, and leaving some mark on language, customs and religions.

If India is still a mystery even to her rulers, it was only a name to the Greek and Roman world. Alexander's visit was brist. Greece was Greece and Rome was Rome, and beyond were the barbarians. East was East and West was West after the crusades. Marco Polo brought back a little information and traders of the Middle Ages returned to Europe with the goods of the Orient. British rule wrote new chapters of romance and cold facts of history. Kipling is not so much an interpreter of India as of the British occupation.

Romance and History

The period of British rule is but a small fraction of India's history. Eastward from the Iranian plateau the Arvans descended into the Punjab as early as 2000 B. C., and spread through the peninsula, expelling or subduing the aboriginal tribes. Here grew up long before the time of Christ two of the most influential religions of the world, Brahmanism and Buddhism, and a literature rich in poetry and mystic philosophy. The epics of the Mahabharata and Ramayana contain legends of wars which must have been of much importance in the early history of the Vedic Empire. In this India, at a later time, the celebrated Tamerlane flourished. It is the country of Sikh princes and the rajahs of Mysore; of astral bells and occult wonders; of the Taj Mahal and Benares, sacred city of the Hindus; of Delhi and the Durbar; of Clive and Hastings; of the Black Hole of Calcutta and the Relief of Lucknow; of famines and mutinles; of tyranny and enlightened government; of "Barrack Room Ballads" and "The Light of Asia"; of caste and Christian missions; of an ancient and now broken civilization, beside which our own, in the eyes of the true Hindu is like outer darkness. And India has always had the fatal gift of beauty and wealth, and the strife of the nations of Europe for possession of "the pearl of the East" is not done.

A NEWSBOY'S CAREER

The life of Frederick Parry Morris should the life of Freedrick Tarry Morris should provide inspiration for every true American. Coming to this country from England as a boy, penniless, finding his opportunity as a newsboy on Long Island, working his way up the ladder until he reached the top rung of business success, his coreer stands as a symbol of what can be done here by sail and perseverof what can be done here by grit and persever-

But he was much more than a successful man of business. The gift for organization and administration that put him at the head of the Long Island News Company and made him a millionaire also enriched the service which he gave to the village of Flushing as its vice president and president. And the fine qualities of heart and president. And the fine quali-ties of heart and mind that won for him the confidence and friendship of the big men in the railroads and newspapers with which be dealt also brought him the eminence which he achieved in Marone.

achieved in Masonry. He was a big asset to Long Island. His friends will miss him and mourn him. If they could unite in the creation of some serviceable memorial, they would do honor to themselved and to the community which has been aide and inspired by the life and works of Frederick

PHOTOGRAPHY IN AIR RAIDS

Photography, of course, is playing an everincreasing part in aerial reconno sance. It is now one of the prime meabs of ascertaining the accuracy with which bomb dropping is attended Contrary to the general idea, when a place is risks to try to get in a lucky shot before ! turning. The fire that follows the drapping each bomb is photographed by aircraft ire above, so that a permanent record is made con-cerning the places actually damaged. Nothing is left to guesswork.—H. Massac Butst in the London Post.

GLIMPSES OF MORTALITY

[Stephen Phillips, the poet, died Thursday is London. The following is a selection from his "Marpessa."] And most I remember of all human taings

My mother: often as a child I pressed My face against her cheek, and felt her tears: Even as she smiled on me, her eyes would fill. Until my own grew ignorantly wet: And I in silence wondered at sorrow, When I remember this, how shall I know That I myself may not, by sorrow taught, Accept the perfect stillness of the ground? Where, though I lie still, and stir not at all, Yet shall I irresistibly be kind, Helplessly sweet, a wandering garden bliss My ashes shall console and make for peace. This mind that injured, be an endless ham

Or if there be some other world, with no filoom, neither rippling sound, nor early small. Nor leaves, nor pleasant exchange of humis speech;
Only a dreadful pacing to and fro Of spirits meditating on the sun;
A land of bared boughs and grieving sind;
Yet would I not forego the doom, the place.
Whither my poets and my heroes went Before me; warriors that with deeds foriors Before me: warriors that with deeds toriors Saddened my youth, yet made it great is live. Lonely antagonists of Destiny. That went down scornful before many-

o, soon as we are born, are straight out And live in simple music, country so And mournful ballads by the winter fire. Since they have died, their death is ever sens. I would not lose it * * *.