## POPULAR BALLADS.

HOW THEY ARE COMPOSED, MANU-FACTURED AND SOLD.

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Writers of Rhymes Set to Music and Some of Their Incomes-How Many of the Dittles Come to Be Written.

[Philadelphia Times.] To enumerate the songs that have sprung into popularity within the past fifteen months by a reference to their individual sales would constitute an invidi-

ous comparison, for the sale attending an ordinary song is like a leaf, which, tossed by the gale, flutters a moment into prominence, and then passes as quickly away. The ballad that is whistled to day by the thousands may be dead and forgotten be-fore the end of the year, while another, not so readily to meet with popular recognition, may endure to an unlimited time, and even then continue to self.

It is universally conceded that, without the aid of the itinerant minstrel and the\* professional stage singer, very few, if any, of the popular airs now so familiar to us would exist. A catchy baliad or song brought out before an audience by a competent singer seldom fails to create a desire to imitate. Thus, a refrain indifferently heard is frequently caught up, hummed, and unconsciously repeated until a further desire to become fully conversant with it is realized. Among exponents of this class of successe , none stand so conspicuously before us as the actress Lotta, who has possibly done more to create and dis eminate popular music than any other professional in the coun-It is also worthy of note that out of a number of rivals for this distinction that little soubrette has succeeded in surpassing all attempts of others to compete in this particular, as witness the unparallelled recertoire of compositions written expressly for her, with embellished title pages, many of unique design and elaborately executed.

Very few, if any, of the modern writers of song music are so fortunate as to be the recipient of any income on their Cn the contrary, the song-com-Works poser is a type of the struggler of whom poets have sung and judges have spoken. Hence his work is a synonym for his bread and butter, and the small remuneration for his manuscript is not to be staked for the alternative of a prospective in-Manuscripts are purchased on come. royaliy, which means that a stipulated fraction shall be paid on each copy sold after a certain number have been issued; or they are purchased outright from the author for a given sum, which debars the writer from all further claim-or interest in his composition. A good song will bring \$15 on an average, though writers of known repute have received as high as \$500 for a single composition.

With the exception, possibly, of two New York publishing houses, Philadelphia embraces the largest and most extensive publishing marts in the Union. More than one-third of all the cheaper grades of sheet music, foreign reprints and music books printed in the United States are issued in this city. In band and orchestra music one dealer in this city controls, without exception, the largest and most varied patronage in the country, supplying this class of mussic from Maine California Tons of music are sent out annually from Philadelphia. The late cut in prices, which brought about the present market of cheap 5-cent music, has also opened another channel for competition, and, as a result, many London houses are now filling their orders for reprints with American publishers, whose facilities for supplying this kind of work at a lesser cost are greater than any publishing house in the world.

favor with audiences at the present day, especially patrons of the light opera, are the topical or local ones, very few of them reach a large sale. This is chiefly due to the fact that

#### Diskens' Reckless Mischief. [Exchanze.]

A lady in The Englishwoman's Maga zine tells this story of his wild and reck-less fun, and it is matched by many others. They were down on the sea shore in the moonlight, and had been dancing there. "We then strolled further down to watch the failing light. The tide came rippling in. The night grew darker, starless, moonless. Dickens seemed suddenly to be possessed with the spirit of mischief he threw his arms around me and ran me down the inclined plane to the end of the jetty till we reached the toll-post. put his other arm around this, and exclaimed in theatrical tones, that he intended to hold me there till the sad sea waves should submerge us. 'Think of the sensation we shall create.' "

"Here I implored him to let me go, and struggled hard to release myself your mind dwell up n the column in The Times wherein will be visidly described the pathetic fate of the lovely , drowned by Dickens in a fit of dementia Don't struggle, poor little b.d. you are helpless.' By this time the last gleam of light had faded out, a d the water close to us loosed uncomfortably black. The tide was coming up rapidly and surged over my feet. I gave a loud shrick, and tried to bring him back to ommon sen e by reminding him that my dress, my best dress, my only silk dress, would be ruined.

"Even this climax did not soften him he still went on with his serio comic nonsense, shaking with laughter all the time, and panting with his struggles to hold me. 'Mrs. Dickens, I cried 'help me make Mr. Dickens let me go-the waves are up to my knees. ', harles, cried Mrs. Dickens, 'how can you be so silly! lou will both be carried off by the tide. And it was not until my dress had been completely ruined that I succeeded in wresting inyself from him. Upon two other occas ons he seized me and ran with me under the cataract and held me there until I was theroughly baptized and my bonnets a wreck of lace and feathers.

#### The Lottery in Italy. [Palermo Correspondence.]

In Italy the weekly lottery has become

almost a second nature to the people. Books are published to guide the choice of numbers with reference to dreams an events, both ordinary and extraordinary If you dream of a cat, you are bound to play this number; if of a dog, to play that, combining the two numbers in a fashion which the book duly describes should you dream of both dog and cat. But it is from a real, not a visionary, accident that your richest harvest may be reaped, and the greater the accident the richer the harvest. If your child tumbles down-stairs and breaks a leg, you count the number of the stairs, rush to the lottery office, and play the combination of stairs, child, and fall. When the cholera broke out last year in Naples certain numbers indicated by the calamity were played so generally, and, strange to say, so successfully, that the government lottery banks lost heavily.

The other day, at a table d'hote, a com mercial traveler told us all with great animation of a cruel disappointment which had just befallen him. He had had the luck, while traveling in the mountains, to have an accident by which his carriage was almost broken to bits. He immediately utilized the chance by making up the prescribed combination of numbers representing carriage, accident, mountain. alarm, and the day of the month. He flew to the nearest lottery office; it was closed. A Sicilian hotel servant (true to his indolent nature) would not be induced by the offer of 5 francs to take the num bers to the office of the adjoining village. The would be gambler was forced to ac-cept his destiny with the Italian formula of "pazienza" (patience). But imagine the feelings of the ingenious but baiked speculator when the very next day all his Although the songs that find the most | five numbers (a most rare occurrence were drawn at Palermo, and he found that he had thus missed a fertune!

## THE TOBACCO HABIT.

The Universal "Hankering" - Growth of the Clgar Business-Open Air Treatment ["Gath" in Boston Globe.

The tobacco habit is one of the forms of both sedative and stimulation which em to be regarded by the rudest as well as the most accomplished beings. Something in man impels him to be happier. The rude Mexican pounds the century plant till he can get fermentation in it, and then he drinks himself crunk. The methodical Chinaman who has a duty for every day in the year, and saves his money better than the miser, had the citadel of his nature stormed by opium, and agains the command of his government and his religion, he sits down and smokes himsel into sturefaction. The Turk, precluded from liquor by his religion, tortures himself between the harem and the pipe. The English beer drinker comes to a place where malt and hops will no longer satisfy, and he must drug his beer to make it palatable, and the public house which he frequents obliges him in that respect by opening the bung hole and drop ping in tobacco or pepper or something

su : ciently strong. Nothing is more remarkable in the United States than the growth of the cigar business. Eefore the rebellion. Havana manufactured the best and probably the most of our cigars. After the duties were made high the cigar-making business was transferred within our revenue urisdic-tion, first to Key West, and then to New The war itself was provocative of York. the smoking habit as it multiplied ex-citement and left hundreds of thousands of men in tents waiting for battle, and there they smoked because they had no other form of enjoyment. So the growth of tobacco was introduced into our northern states, and now the north raises the best smoking tobacco for cigars, and the tol acco interest in some of the western states amounts to millions per annum. There are said to be 50,000 persons in New York rolling cigars or strip ping the leaf. In almost every little village there are cigar factories.

The Germans and Spanish were formerly the most smokeful of nations, but we are close upon them now, although it is common in this country to find men who never smoked a cigar, and I have often noticed that some men who drank to excess had never put a cigar in their mouths. The drunkard fancies that he is to save his life, notwithstanding the liquor, by rejecting some other bad habit. The best cure for both liquor and tobacco is the open air, and not the open air of cities so much as that of the country. Country people are inclined to chew tobacco in stead of smoking it. A ride of thirty miles through the open country is a cure, in part, for both li uor and tobacco. Grant has kept this open-air treatment up nearly all his life. Either on horseback or in a carriage he has ridden constantly, and down to a very late period, and his trip around the world, in steamers, vessels and vehicles, gave him inspiration of the same sort.

### Test of Pronunciation.

[Exchange.] The following rather curious piece of composition was recently placed upon the blackboard at a teacher's institute, and a prize of a Webster's Dictionary offered to any person who could read it and pro nounce every word correctly. The book was not carried off, however, as twelve was the lowest number of mistakes in pronunciation made:

"A sacrilegious son of Belial, who suf-fered from bronchitis, having exhausted his finances, in order to make good the deficit, resolved to ally himself to a comely, lenient, and docile young lady of the Malay or Caucas an race. He accordingly purchased a calliope, and a coral necklace of a chameleon hue, and securing a suite of rooms at a principal hotel, he engaged the head waiter as his coadjutor. He then dispatched a letter the most unexcep ionable caligraphy extant, inviting the young lady to matinee. The revolted at the idea, refused to consider herself sacrificable to his de sires, and sent a polite note of refusal, on receiving which he procured a carbine and a bewie-knife, said that he would not forge fetters hymeneal with the queen, went to an isolated spot, severed his jugular vein, and discharged the contents his carbine into his body. The debris was removed by the coroner." The mistakes in pronunciation were made on the following words: : acrilegious, Belial, broachitis, exhausted, finat ces, deficit, comely, lenient, docile, Malay, calliope, chameleon, coad utor, caligra-phy, matinee, sacrificable, carbine, hymeneal, isolated, suite, jugular and de bris.

#### Orpheus C. Kern [Cor. San Francisco Chroticle.]

The author of "The Mackerel Brigade" is being rapidly forgotten of men. Do you remember after he had married Adah Isaac Menken, and accompanied her to San Francisco, what a bubble of talk there was about it? He resembled then Artemus Ward a little-only that Mr. Newell (Mr. Kerr) was a much handsomer man, of the perfect blonde type and most cultivated in his manners. He is of a very aristocratic family, who repudiated his claim to their c.emeucy after he had wedded poor Menken. It is well known that it was a genuine love mar riage on the part of the poet author, even if like many another it was finally un fortunate. Kerr never regained his vivacity of

spirits or his literary position after that fateful silence and its eventful separation. He did her just ce after her death by giv ing to print the only truthful account of her unfortunate li e. He lives now in New Jersey. Long since, after a dread ful illness he was again reconciled to his family, but he was never just himself. He is old now beyond his years; his yellow silken hair is turned a dusty gray: bi mustache, that curled around the cornerof his eleminate mouth in a wonderin artistic way, is white and long. whole face is one of pain and sadness; h stoops in the shoulders, and he was an Adonis in figure; is morb dly sl'ent an reticent. He writes a sittle-not much for print; is an inveterate cigarette smoker, and paces up and down some favorite walk or room by the hour, burie i

in his own gloomy re ections. The "unkindest cut" too poor Newe is that western papers are copying hi "Mackerel Brigade" papers without giv ing him credit, and even e deavor to se mutilate them as to be made "original. Is there any meaner thief in the word than the literary pilferer?

The Spec al Train.

[Chicago Herald "Train Talk."]

A special train, consisting of an engine and one car, was running over the toad It made fast time. None of the pas enge i were visible at the windows. As the whistle sounded for the crossings there was a mournful, lingering tone before its echo died away in the distance. Even the bell was hollow and solemn, and as little as could be like the sharp, cheerful clang of the average locomotive bell. The whee's seemed to moan a ong the track and never a colt nor a calf by the side of the track kicked heels into the air in play ful fear. Not even a dog measured speed with the engine, skipping along the fur row as dogs delight to do.

The section men seemed to bow their heads as they stood one side, shove's and sledges in hand. The smoke from the locomotive was densely black, and in-gered dismally over the one car like a loud. Presently the whistle sounded, onger and more sadly than ever before. The bell dinged almost in muffed tones The whee's moved slower and slower, as if groaning deeply, a d the train came to a stop. There was no platform, no sta-tion. By the side of the track was a little cottage. The dog lay crouched upor the porch. He did not even rouse to bark. The sun was setting behind a western cloud, and the chickens were walking

men. They lifted slowly and cautiously a stretcher upon which lay a sheeted form. They walked up to the house, hat in hand, as the pump of the engine worked to and fro, sighing. The dog roused him-self and whined. The door opened, the stretcher was carried in, and women were heard weeping and wailing. Another railway man, brave and unfinching in the hour of danger, had been carried to his

#### Anti-Dyspepsia Diet.

Pulpit, " 1 ev. Robert Collyer says: " My

home.

## COMPARATIVE WORTH OF BAKING POWDERS.



## **REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT CHEMISTS**

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"It is a scientific fact that the Royal Baking Powder is absolutely pure. "H. A. Morr, Ph.D."

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NOTE-The above DIAGRAM Illustrates the comparative worth of various Baking Powders, as shown by Chemical Analysis and experiments made by Prof. Schedler. A pound can of each powder was taken, the total leavening power or volume in each can calculated, the result being as indicated. This practical test for worth by Prof. Schedler only proves what every observant consumer of the Royal Baking Powder knows by practical experience, that, while it costs a few cents per pound more than ordinary kinds, it is far more economical, and, besides, affords the advantage of better work. A single trial of the Royal Baking Powder will convince any fair minded person of these facts.

 While the diagram shows some of the alum powders to be of a higher degree of strength than other powders ranked below them, it is not to be taken as indicating that they have any value. All alum powders, no matter how high their strength, are to be avoided as dangerous.

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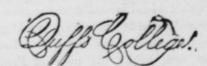
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solemnly to their roost. Out of the one car stepped three or four

"With the theme of the day The song dies away.'

The writer, on a recent visit to different publishing houses, was surprised to find now numerous and slight were the themes employed for musical creations. and almost every subject is utilized for the text of both vocal and instrumental manufacture. At one house he en-countered no less than half a score of

manuscripts that had been prepared as prospective dirges on the death of Gen. Grant, and as many more on the com-pletion of the Bartholdi pedestal.

pletion of the Bartholdi pedestal. The competition and rivalry in modern songs, against the sales of which innum-erable means are employed to thwart their popularity by those who challenge and depreciate it, and others, who frequently works go so far as to boldly imitate title, words and music, has succeeded in greatly de-pleting the profits which would otherwise accrue to their copyrighters. In the face of accrue to their copyrighters in the face of these adverse circumstances however, considerable profit is realized by wide-awake publishers on a good song. The publishers of "Wait 'Till the Clouds Roll By," two enterprising young New Yorkers, are said to have netted some \$18,000 from its first year's sales, and the author of that quondam hit, "Cradle's Empty, Baby's Gone," who, fortunately, copy righted and controlled the interest of his song, a comfortable total of \$6,500-a statement verified by the testimony of certain dealers, through whose hands its numerous editions passed. Frank Howard, anthor of "When the the Robins Nest Again," made \$8,000 out of his song, whereas James C. Stewart, who wrote the beautiful "Jennie, the Flower of Kildare," and many other popular songs, died recently in a poor-house.

Occasionally a writer who has sufficient confidence in his work will, as in the case above mentioned, copyright and person-ally control his composition and "trust to luck" for a good income. The chances for success, however, are invariably so meagre that such projects nowadays are considered here done an avieral by the considered hazardous, as evinced by the numerous adventures in this respect and the few hits made-about 2 per cent. only of the many songs copyrighted by their authors realizing what might be termed a profitable return.

#### Tabac de Paris. [Foreign Letter.]

Paris has a market for cigar stumps. It is open for business daily from 8 to 10 o'clock. The stumps are worth from 15 to 25 cents per pound, according to length. The sellers are mostly poor old men and women and ragged gamins, Much of the tobacco thus scraped together is sold to workmen, and much is also said to be ex-ported under the title of Tabac de Parir. There was an old man in the Maubert quarter formerly who became so rich at at this humble business of selling cighr stumps that he had an annual income of \$3,000

John Swinton's Paper: A dog that knows where to find a bone is wiser than a scholar who has not learned how to make a living.

#### Pretended Admiration. [Leland's London Letter.]

When will the world be honest and cease shamming to itself? In music, as in art, the great majority pretend to admire a hundred times as much as they feel or understand. People appeal to the multitudes in Albert hall drawn by the ove of classical music, but the poor souls would go as soon to see or hear anything. I shall never forget how in my younger days of journalism, when I was doing musical and dramatic criticism for a daily paper, a friend who did the same for another and who was himself a capable musician and composer said to me one night in a crowded opera house where everybody appeared to be enceptured over a sonata, to judge by their frantic applause: "Do you really believe there are twenty people here uneducated in music who care a straw for the music or know what it is?"

#### If the Russians Should Take Herat. (Pall Mall Gazette ]

"One Who has Seen Much of War" writes: "If you ask nine out of ten of your acquaintances at the present crisis what they would propose to do if the Rus-sians should take Herat, the reply is, 'Why, turn them out, to be sure,' but, once the hussians are established there, what does 'turn them out' mean? Why, 50,000 British soldiers with 50,000 native ones, 300 guns at least, 200,000 baggage animals of all sorts, and 100,000 camp followers; and this force to march from Quettah, 500 miles distant from Herat, Quettah, 500 miles distant from Herat, through a country very scantily provided with food, and having, on arrival at Herat, to fight a battle with an army which we know can and will fight, and in a carefully-selected position; and this battle may decide the fate of India; for, if lost, where are we to retreat to?"

## Fig Growing in the North.

[Chicago Tribune.] Figs are said to have been cultivated in Maryland for the last twenty-five years as follows: "From the 10th to the 20th of November dig a trench around the trees, cutting away about half the roots they have made during the season, bend down the branches to the ground in the form of a cross, and cover them with earth from three to four inches in thickness. In In spring uncover them from the 1st to the 10th of April." The same plan has been successful in Michigan. The trees in tubs may also be wintered in a ventilated cellar.

#### Dead Branches. [Exchange.]

Professor C. E. Eessey, of Iowa, claims that dead branches are detrimental to the trees. The escape of moisture takes place from a naked dead surface constantly, a condition detrimental to the tree's welfare. Experiments conducted at

the Iowa Agricultural college confirmed this view.

#### They Can Stand It. [Jud Lafagan.]

Those who are always willing to assist those in trouble generally get snubbed the oftenset, but I don't know of saybody that can stand it any better than they can.

#### The Out- f-Doors Crop. (C.c.go Herald.)

Cornstalks are never stacked or taken into account in some parts of the country. In a few places yet the corn itself is never husked or harvested, but is left standing, while cattle and hogs are turned into the fields in winter to help themselves. In Virginia 10 per cent. of the crop, or nearly 3,000,000 bushels, was left in the field over winter last year: in Tennessee, 5 per cent., or 3,286,-000 bushels; while Kentucky and Ohio had each nearly 6,000,000, bushels Illinois left 17,118,000 bushels unhar vested. Thrifty Kansas left 23 per cent. of her crop, or 21,905,000 bushels, un gathered, while in the whole United States 119,811,000 bushels were left to the mercy of winter weather under this prim itive form of husbandry.

#### An Ancient Custon.

[Chicago Herald.] An encient custom was observed recently at a London church where, in accordance with the will of Peter Symonds, which dates so far back as the year 1586, sixty of the younger boys of Christ's hos-pital attended divine services in the morning and afterward received a new penny and a bag of raisins. It was stated that this was the 291st celebration of this

## Sea Island Cotton.

(Chicago Times.)

quaint ceremony.

There is so little demand now for the famous sea island cotton of South Carolina that few planters have sold their last year's crop. It was formerly used to adulterate silk, but the demand has ceased without any apparent reason, except by means of improved machinery other cotton may be used for thread and other purposes as well as the long staple.

#### She Appreciated It.

[Texas Siftings.] Gus de Smith and Miss Birdie McGinnis were taking a moonlight stroll on the beach at Galveston one night last week, when Gus remarked:

"How pale the moon looks to night." "You'd be pale too, if you had to be up

more or less, one night after the other, for a week or more at a time."

#### Clumsy Fingers.

A young man never thoroughly appre-ciates what big hands he has, and how clumsy his fingers are, until his young lakly asks him to button her glove.

win151y father had \$4,50 a week to keep his family on, and we got along with surpris-ing regularity. I was the eldest of the family of children, and was always glad of that. At that time provisions were not nearly so cheap as now; there were no National Life Insurance cheap schools, and the schools then were not very common, and such as they were you had to pay for them. Yet that good mother made that income stand good enough for all. We lived on oatmeal and milk in plenty, with just a bit of meat when we could get hold of it; a mug of tea and white bread on Sundays, brown bread the rest of the time. My mother would make soup on Sundays, and would say to us boys, 'Now, boys, he who drinks monts. These bonds are payable to the most soup shall have the most meat. or at previous death, or a stipulated We would drink as much as we could carry; then she would say, 'Well, you can t eat any more; we will save the meat any year after the first, on their suruntil to morrow.' With such a training as this it is no wonder that I hardly know render. R. M. MCENALLY, Special'Aqt. what you mean by indigestion. " Secretary Chase's Wit-

[Philadelphia Record.] When the late Chief Justice Chase chose to unbend himself he could be witty as well as wise. At a social gathering at his house during the war, the subject of taxa tion having been mooted a distinguished naval o'licer present said he had paid all his taxes except the income tax. "I have a little property, " said he, " which brings me in a yearly rental, but the tax gath-erers have not spotted it. I do not know erers have not spotted it. I do not know whether I ought to let the thing go that way or not. What would you do if you were in my place, Mr. Chase?" There was a merry twinkle in the eyes of Sec-retary Chase as he answered archly: "I think it is the duty of every man to live unscotted as here as he can." unspotted as long as he can.

Her Pertinent Suggestion.

[Merchant Traveler

"Cats," he answered, briedy.

'Care will kill a cat,' darling, " she

A Son of Dickens.

[Exchange.]

The son of Charles Dickens, who was at first reported killed at Fort Pitt, but who has happily escaped, went to Manitoba some ten years since, and was made inspector of the mounted police. He was afterward promoted to be chief inspector. He is described as a plucky, dashing offi-cer, inheriting some of his father's literary tastes, but fonder of adventure and open air life.

Martin Farquhar Tupper is not only very poor, but is very much in debt, and is daily pestered with dunning creditors, whom he manages to meet with his "Proverbial Philosophy.

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This is to certify that the Rockford Watch bought Feb. 22, 1879, has run very well the past year. Having set it only twice during that time, its only variation being three minutes. It has run very much better than I ever an-ticipated. It was not adjusted and only con 220, R- P. BEYANT, workers absolute y assur & Co. Fortland, Maine,

cheerfully recommend the Rockford Watch. HORACE B. HORTON, Watch. TAUNTON, Sept, 18, 1881. The Rockford Watch runs very accurately ; better than any watch I ever owned, and I have had one that cost \$150. Can recommond the Rockford Watch to everybody who wishes a fine

timekeeper.

Tupper's Foverty.

R. P. BEYANT,

"What have you got in your hand?" "Gun, "he replied, savagely. "O, dear, take care; take care." "Care, thunder! What do I want to take care for?" whispered, and dodged under the cover.

Mr. Pozeen was troubled by a cat on a neighboring roof, and one night he jumped out of bed and, picking up a pistol, started for the scene of action, waking his wife by his movements. "What's the matter?" she inquired.