BY S. B. ROW.

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A PRETTY LOVE SONG.

- I love you—'fis the simplest way The thing I feel to tell; Yet, if I told it all the day,
- You'd never guest how well.
 You are my comfort and my light;
 My very life you seem;
 I think of you all day;—all night
- 'Ils but of you I dreum. There's pleasure in the lightest word
- That you can speak to me; My soul is like the Æolian chord, And vibrates still to thee.
- I never read the love-song yet, So thrilling, fond, or true, But in my own heart I have met Some kinder thought of you.
- I bless the shadow on your face, The light upon your hair; I like, for hours to sit and trace The passing changes there; I love to hear your voice's tone
- Although you should not say A single word, to dream upon When that had died away. O' you are kindly as the beam That warms where er it plays
- And you are gentle as a dream Of happy future days; And you are strong to do the right, And swift the wrong to flee; And, if you were not half so bright, You're all the world to me.

HOLY PLACES IN BETHLEHEM. From the New York Observer.

The site of Bethlehein is peculiar. It stands upon a hill and is surrounded by other hills of equal height. Some of these are terraced to the summit, and being thickly set with the fig and olive, have a charming appearance. In former times when the science of cultivation was better understood, and the people were able and willing to adorn and enrich the land this must have been one of the most beautiful regions in Palestine, and it is pleasant to mark it as so inviting a place for the advent of the Lord of Life. In ancient times, the whole country round about this, though rocky, and apparently barren, as much of the land of Judea appears to be, was rendered exceedingly productive, by means of terraces, and must have abounded in grapes, figs and olives .-These, with bread, probably constituted the principal part of the food of the inhabitants; their living is essentially the same at this day

The village of Bethlebem contains from twelve to fifteen hundred souls-souls these people have-and the Christian traveller enters its street-it is mostly on one long street, with painful reflections, as he thinks of being in the city of David and the native place of the son of God, while the people are wholly given to idolatry or sunk in superstition so gross and sensual as to make their views of the way of life by Jesus Christ as dark and dangerous as If the light of the gospel had never broken in for a single moment on their minds. A few years ago there were several families here who followed the false prophet Mahomet, but so frequent and so fierce became the difficulties between them and the others, who bore the name of Christian, that the Pasha took a very summary mode of settling the disputes-he drove all the Mahometans out of the place, and tore down their houses. If this was a hard, it was a very effectual mode of disposing of a troublesome subject, and it shows to what a depth of subjection the inhabitants of this sacred country are reduced. Now the Bethlehemites are, all of them, Roman Catholic, Greek and Armenian Christians, living in no better harmony of feeling with one another than they did with the Arabs, but they are restrained by the arm of power from outbreaks which disturb the peace of the town.

They have their three convents within the same onter walls, known by the names of the several sects, and each claiming the sanctity that belongs to the possession of the Holy places. In the same great enclosure also, is a vast edifice, supposed to be the church built by Helena, the celebrated mother of the Emperor Constantine, though others say that her church was destroyed by the Moslems, and the present temple was erected on the same site. And this church, it is held, is built on the spot where our Lord was born. Under the church I entered the chapel in which they showed us the pretended manger, or rather one made to represent it, for the original, they say, was carried to Rome, in which the infant Jesus was laid. A few feet from the manger is an altar, occupying the spot where the Magi stood when they offered their gifts of gold, frank-incense and myrrh. A brilliant star, to represent the one which stood over the place. "where the young child was," now marks the spot where it is believed that the Saviour was born.

In my travels in Italy and the East, I have often found that the stables for the cattle are fitted up with comfortable places for beds, after the manner of the berths on shipboard, and in them the men who have the care of the horges are accustomed to sleep. If the hotel is full of guests, any one would prefer to take a bed in the stable where he would be protected from the night air, rather than lie out, and it was not, therefore, so unusual and trying a circumstance, as it appears at first view, that Joseph and Mary should be compelled to take refuge for the night in the stable. The same cause, the registry of all persons who belonged originally in Betblehem and must now resort here to be taxed, or enrolled for taxation. might have brought others here on the same errand, and made the inns inadequate to furnish beds. And it is not an unusual practice, King. "But he speaks ill of you," said the ly in the morning-"Yes, and never got home of the house for a stable, and the other for the | business."

family, while there is no sign of a partition between them. I have slept in this way myself, and as one manger had no horse before it. Antonio occupied it for his bed, and made no complaint of his lodging. The neighing of minister had read the psalms and scripture the animals, did not hear it.

But if Joseph and Mary had been persons of wealth and consideration, undoubtedly "room in the inn" would have been made for them, and the fact that they were constrained to re- pers. The house was very still-the clear, sort to the stable, and especially under their the humiliation to which the Son of God be- air, which the midsummer's Sabbath morn had came subject, in taking upon himself the form

And now we are in the midst of those scenes of nations and the world. The present war, convulsing Europe and threatening the stabillowed by the birth of Christ. If the disputing how many whispers, too. where his infant form was laid, and I confess to a strong feeling of sympathy with those who are powerfully moved when they stand on

ground that is memorable for such an event as this. But the quarrels of these superstitious people were so incessant and violent, that the wear anything but mourning? And in spite government, and a Mahometan government at of these protestations, hadn't she come out all that, was compelled to interfere, and to appor- at once, dressed in white, and walked into the tion to each its share, strictly torbidding all church in broad daylight, leaning on the arm interference of one with the other. Thus the manger is in the hands of the Roman Catholies, and the Greeks and Armenians have noth- guilty to all these charges, grave ones as they ing to do with it. The altar of the wise men is common to all, but may be used in regular been subparaed! She was actually dressed body wondered if she had heard what they lished. Her education, however, was very turns. The altar over the star belongs exclu- in white, with open corsage, displaying an el- were saying when she came in; but her placid imperfect, and her intelligence by no means sively to the Greeks and Armenians, the for- aborately wrought chimfrite, drapery-sleeves countenance soon reassured the most fearful, great, and she was very superstitions. Some sixteen golden pendant lamps are kept con- sleeves of the same expensive material, with stantly burning, of which the Armenians have a white lace hat with orange-buds and flowers, six, the Greeks six, and the Roman Catholics four. Into the great church, the possession of which is divided between the Greeks and Armenians, these monks enter by different doors. and maintain their seperate worship within the same walls. The Roman Catholics have no other privilege in it, but to pass through on their way to the chapel below. But the division of the holy ground is carried even further than this, and the cave where they pretend that Joseph and Mary were hid, previous to their going to Egypt with the infant Jesus, belongs to the Romanists, while that of the shepherds to whom the angels appeared, is given to the Greeks. But if any of these three contending sects could get power, they would quickly drive out the other two, and such will be the

then be a Roman Catholic Sec. from what it was on that night when Mary took | with the rest of the congregation quietly out as the place is now called, is a gorgeous chap- ment, he offered her his arm very gracefully, el, and thirty-two elegant lamps, the gifts of and she placed her hand very confidentially on sovereigns and princes, shed lustre over the the beautiful coat sleeve, as they passed on. polished marble manger and gilded altar, and before the altars, and when they had finished church where the priest gave them the sacrament of our Lord's Supper from a basket of lady had a beau, and nobody knew it. bread, talking and laughing with them as they on the back, in the excitement of his glee! - | they must have been crisp and crimson-Blessed Master! do they thus degrade the mystery of thy death on the very place of thy

Easebins, and still on till we were shown the spot where by Herod's order the children were | pied the village mind-the widow's beau. slain. And here the felly of tradition became intolerable, as the monk showed us the skeleton hand of one of these little ones, set in a frame and covered with gauze. I turned away lows, and anxious to be allowed alone to wander and meditate among these scenes that are more sacred to me than to these relic-mongering menks and superstitious pilgrims.

man and his conclusions were seldom incorrect. He said that a newspaper and Bible in she's so carried away with him. But I'll give trict-all studied and appreciated as merited chance; see if I don't." -are the principal supporters of virtue, morality and civil liberty.

A lady made a complaint to Frederick the Great, King of Prussia .- "Your Majesty," said she, "my husband treats me badly." neighbors said Mrs. C. and a gentleman went "That is none of my business," replied the off in a carriage, nobody knew where very ear-

THE WIDOW'S BEAU.

Services had commenced in the neat little sanctuary, which the inhabitants of Harlem had consecrated to the service of God. The one of the horses awakened me in the night, lessons, and had repeated the first line of the but Antonio, whose ears were much nearer to opening hymn. The eyes of the people were fixed intently upon him, for he was not only a sound and eloquent preacher, but he was a fine looking one, too, and thus enchained not only the attention of the true, but the false worshipmelancholy tones of the preacher were the onpeculiar circumstances of trial and peril, shows ly sounds that throbbed on the balmy golden breathed into that holy place.

The first syllable of the second line was trembling on his lips, when a rustle at the which have been the occasion of conflicts in- door, and the entrance of two persons, a lady volving not the peace of the Bethlehem com- and a gentleman, dissolved the charm. In a munity only, nor of this Holy Land only, but second every eye turned from the pulpit to the broad aisle, and watched with more than ordinary interest, the progress of the couple. ity of thrones and dynasties, had its origin in A most searching ordeal were they subjected the miserable contests among these miserable to, and when fairly and quietly seated in the religionists about the possession of these pla- first pew, immediately in front of the pulpit, ces, which they suppose are identified as hal- what a nudging of elbows there was-ay, and

parties loved the Saviour and charished his In vain the sound, the good, the cloquent, spirit, there would be more apology for the the handsome Mr. B. sought again to steal the pertinacity with which they cling to the spot attention of his hearers. They had no eyes, no thoughts for anybody else but widow C. and widow C.'s young gentlemanly and dashing attendant.

How she had cheated them. Hadn't she said she didn't feel as though she could ever of a young gentleman.

Yes, indeed she had. She would have plead with kid gloves and light gaiters-such was the description every lady had on her tongue, to repeat over as soon as the service was ended.

And the gentleman-he was dressed in style didn't he wear white pants of the latest pattern, and a white vest, and a coat of "satin finish," and white kids, too; and didn't he sport a massive chain, and didn't be gaze often and lovingly on the fair features beside him?

Ah, yes, he did so, and there was no further room to doubt. Widow C. had cheated them. She had won a beau, laid aside her mourning, put on a bridal attire and was going to be married in church. But who the beau was, and from whence he came, it was difficult to solve.

Services proceeded. The choir sung and the minister prayed and preached-the people wonresult when the French take possession of Tur- | dered when the ceremony would take place. key, and in behalf of the Pope of Rome, as-

But to their utter astonishment they were same the protectorate of Palestine, which will left to wonder.

For when the benediction was pronounced, But how changed the birth-place of Jesus widow C. and the strange gentleman walked refuge here. The "Grotto of the Nativity," of the church. When they reached the pave-

What a morning that was in Harlem! What the paintings that represent the Magi offering a world of conjectures, surmises, inquiries and their gifts to the boly child. Here the pilgrims doubts rolled over and over in the brains of from other lands were prostrating themselves not only gossiping ladies, but sober, matterof-fact gentlemen. The like of such a thing their devotions, f followed them up into the had never occurred in the annals of the village -there was something new under the sun-a

Widow C. didn't your ears burn that day? received it, and now and then slapping them | And we wonder they didn't drop off; surely

The Rev.Mr. B. preached to a crowded house that afternoon : no compliment to him, though. Every one was sure the welding would take And then with feelings more of disgust than place then, but everybody was sadly disapof reverence, with a sort of sickness of heart, I pointed; and if tongues had run at railroad was led to the cell of Jerome, where he lived speed before, they travelled then on electric for years and translated the Old Testament in- wires. The minister might have preached in to the Latin tongue-and then to the tomb of Greek that day, and the sermon would have been quite as edifying. But one subject occu-

It actually seemed, too, as though the lady tried to make all the talk she could. After tea, arm in arm with the strange gentleman, she walked the whole length of the village, relieved to get out of the presence of such fel- and away out into the country, and never returned till the moon was high.

"A nice looking dress I guess she had," drawled out grandma W. as she listened to the story of the handsome widow's wanderings .-"I'm glad I hain't got to wash it, all drabbled FRANKLIN was an observing and sensible up with dew, as it must have been; but I don't 'spose she thought or cared a word about it, every house, and a good school in every dis- her a piece of my mind the first time I have a

But the good old dame began to fear she would never have the desired chance. She hurried through her washing on Monday, and hobbled over to the widow's as soon as possible, but the door was locked, and one of the ven now, in this same country, to use one half lady. "That," he replied, "is none of your until nine o'clock in the evening." Look out | widow! your character is on the carpet.

If she knew it, apparently she didn't care, for the next day she wen't a sailing with her beau, and the next day rambled with him off to the woodlawn, and the next forenoon went with him in a carriage to the railroad station; and there not only wept as she parted from him,

but actually embraced and kissed him! "What! in broad day light!" exclaimed grandina W. "Well, if I ever heard or seen the like on't."

Little Nell, the old lady's youngest grand child, wondered to herself if it was any worse in broad daylight than at other times. Perhaps you will wonder, too. We did at least.

There was a large attendance that afternoon at the weekly meeting of the village sewing society. Everybody went that could possibly leave home. And what a chattering there was when the bustling of assembling was over .-There was but one topic, but that was all-engrossing-the widow's beau-for the gentleman must be her heau-or at least ought to be. Everybody had something to tell, something o wonder at. But suddenly every magic tongue was hushed; an universal stroke of palsy seemed to have fallen on the group as, looking up, they perceived the very lady about whom they were conversing so eagerly, standing in the

"Good afternoon, ladies," said she in her usual quiet way; "I am glad to see so large and happy a gathering. It is a beautiful day for our meeting."

And then she" proceeded to the table and helped herself to a block of patchwork, inquiring for the sewing silk, which having received, she sat down in the only vacant chair, and commenced hemming a red bird with a yellow wing on a very green twig which latter had al-

ly, and in so round about a way that the lady would not suspect her of curiosity. So she

began by praising Mrs. C's dress. "Why, it's really a beauty. Where did you

of bought it."

"Here ?" inquired the old lady.

"Where then?" "in the city, last spring."

"Oh, you did, did you? But I thought you vas never going to dress in anything but black

blush, but it continued as usual, while she ly by saving mass in her chapel. She was alanswered-41 did think and say so once, but I have finally altered my mind."

"You have, eh! What made you ?" "Oh, I had good reasons."

Here the hearers and lookers-on winked and ooked very expressive at each other. "But did you not spoil your beautiful white

the burying-ground ?"? "I did not wear it." Here was a damper for the old lady. She Martin.

had such a long lecture to read on extravagance, and she determined to do it, too, when unfortunately for her eloquent strain, Mrs. C.'s dress hung up in her wardrobe all the time, and she had worn an old black silk.

She would not be baulked again. She would home, "that she would." She began by saying - Your company went away this morning, at a place called Mennevilliers, and she acknowdidn't he ?"

"He did."

"He did not stay very long, did he?" "Not so long as I wished him to stay," was the reply. And how the ladies did look at each other. It was as good as a confession.

"When did he come?" "Saturday evening."

"Were you looking for him?" "I had been expecting him for a fortnight

"Why, du tell if you had then, and you ever told on't either. Had he any business

in the place ?" "He had," replied the widow.

"What was it?" This was rather more direct and blunt than the old lady had meant to put, and she forthwith apologised. But the widow interrupted her by saving-

O, I'd as lief you'd know as not: he came O, widow C., your good name did go down

hen. Be careful what you say next, or you'll home with, and remnants go very cheap. "He did, did he? and he didn't come for

nothing else, then. But was you glad to see him ?" queried the old lady. "Indeed I was. It was one of the happiest moments of my existence."

"Well, well," said the old lady, hardly know-

"You don't say so! But is he rich I" "Worth a hundred thousand or so," said the lady earnestly.

"Why, du tell if he is. Why, you will live he pretended had been made at Sarcus. like a lady, won't you? But what is his name I" inquired the old lady, whose curiosi-

ty was new raised to a high pitch. "Henry Macon." "Macon! Macon! why, wasn't that your name before you was married ?"

"Then he's a connection, is he?" "He is."

"It was."

"Du tell who he is then. Not a cousin, I hope. I never did think much of a marriage between cousins." "He is not my cousin."

"He isn't? Not your cousin? But what connection is he? Du tell now?"

"He is my youngest brother!"

sewing and knitting by any circle of ladies, it Coudrin, superiors of the convent of Petit St. was by those composing this society, for the Martin, during the time Mile. Bulnois was in next fifteen minutes. Not a word was utter- it. But the tribunal decided that the persons ed, nor an eye raised. Had the latter been could not, for various technical reasons, be done, and the roguish and expressive glances sued as the representatives of the community, seen which passed between Mrs. C. and the and dismissed the action. minister, who, unobserved, had stood on the It was on appeal against this decision that threshold as a silent spectator and a curious the matter was brought before the Imperial

HOMISH PRIESTCRAFT IN FRANCE.

the name, character, standing and profession

of the widow's beau.

From Galignani's Messenger, March 5th. An extraordinary trial has, during the last month, occupied the Court of Orleans. The facts of it were these : A Mile. Bulnois, who ready been helamed on to a square piece of was born in 1772, inherits from her parents, white cloth, and the whole when completed, who were large landowners and manufacturers, was designed to form the twentieth part of a a very great fortune, and she increased it by bed-spread. She seemed all engrossed with her economy, and by carrying on for some were, and to the last how many witnesses had the bird's bill, and spoke to no one. Every- years the manufactories which they had estabselves into her confidence, and, under the Old grandmother W. was the first to venture. | guise of religion, gained a complete ascendan-She meant to do up the matter very delicate- ev over her. In 1818, having retired from business, she, by their advice, removed her residence from Sarcus, her pative place, in the department of the Oise, to Tours, which then possessed the reputation of being a very

She had two persons living with her-one a sister of charity, the other the daughter of a man named Leveque, who acted as her steward; but after a year or two another Sister of Charity instilled herself in the house. Shortly after her arrival at Tours she purchased an old convent of the Feuillans, and took up her residence in it. She was there constantly sur-All scrutinized the lady's face in search of rounded by priests, and they pleased her greatso a frequent visitor at the convent of the Petit Saint Martin, a branch of the great house of Picpus at Paris: she moreover, after a while, charged Father Philibert chaplain of the convent, who was her own confessor, with the management of her property. In 1828, in compliance with the recommendation of Father dress the other night, wearing it away up to Philibert, the nuns, the Sisters of Charity and priests who surrounded her, she took up her residence in the convent of the Petit Saint

She then transferred to a priest who was the representative of the Convent of Picpus, the proprietorship of Les Feuillans, acknowledging that she had "sold" the place to him for 40,000 fr., though in reality, no such sum was, After a while the old lady took a fresh start. nor any other, ever paid. Some time after he executed deeds, by which she "sold" for 180,find out all about that beau before she went | 000 fr., to the Bishop of Chalcedonia, Superior of the convent of Picpus, a valuable estate ledged having received the sum in question in cash: but not one farthing of it was ever really paid to her. In addition to this she gave or sold to Leveque, her steward at Sarcus, all the real property she possessed there; but this man was to a certain extent, the pretenom of the community of Picpus. Differences subsequently arose between him and the community as to the manner in which the Sarcus property should be divided between them, and these differences came to the knowledge of Madame Balnois' family.

They were greatly surprised to learn that she had made any disposition of her property at all, as they knew she had fatten into a state of imbecility, and as they had supposed that The first synod was formed in Philadelphia in the religious community in which she was at 1717. The first general assembly was held in Tours would, as her natural protector, have Philadelphia in 1789, and was composed of prevented her from doing anything of the four synods and sixteen Presbyteries. kind. They instituted inquiries, and were astounded to find that she had done away, not only with the property at Sarcus, but with the estate at Mennevilliers, and Les Feuillans at have only a remnant of character left to go Tours. They immediately took preceedings raised by the Druids, which the finger of a for having her placed under interdiction, and child might vibrate to its centre, yet the might one of the law courts, after making inquiries, of an army could not move it frem its place; and subjecting her to interrogatories, declared our Constitution is so nicely poised, that it that she was undoubtedly so imbecile as to be seems to sway with every breath of passion. incapable of managing her own affairs, and it yet so firmly based in the hearts and affections charged one of her nephews with the adminis- of the people, that the wildest storms of treatration of them. This was in January, 1847, son and fanaticism break over it in vain." ing how to frame the next question; "well, and in July, 1848, the poor lady died. Her well, he is a very good-looking man, any way.' nephews and nieces, as heirs at law, then took "I think so, too, and he's not only good- proceedings before different courts to obtain past year, 48 resignations, 46 deaths, 12 dis looking, but he's good-hearted-one of the the restitution of her real property; and the missals, 48 dropped, and 128 placed on the rebest men I ever knew," observed the widow. result of this was that the Bishon of Chalcedo- tired or reserved list.

villiers, the community of Picpus to restore the convent of Les Fouillans, and Leveque nearly all the donations and purchases which

But these restorations were only of the real property, and her beirs found that from the time she went to Tours up to her death, the rents of her houses and lands, the capital she had possessed, and the sums she had received from various resources, bad gone into the hands of the authorities of the Convent of Lo Petit Saint Martin. As well as they could make out, the total was 628,000 fr .- namely, 381,591 fr. in capital and 244,006 fr. in rents. They accordingly demanded the restoration of that sum with an addition of 100,000 fr. as damages. To enforce their demand they bro't an action before the Civil Tribunal of Orleans against the Bishop of Chalcedonia, as superior of the community of Picpus, and against If ever there was rapid progress made in Mmes, de Beaussais, Jobert, Nemesie, and

hearer, perhaps-mind you, we only say per- Court. The representatives of Mme. Balnois, haps - they might have guessed more correctly, after contending that the personages in question were responsible for the Picpus communi ty, adduced a number of facts to prove that their aged annt was in such a state of mind as not to be able to dispose of her property, and that the priests and nuns by whom she was surounded had taken undue advantage of that state to despoil her.

On the part of the Archbishop and the other defendants it was vehemently denied that they had exercised unfair influence on the old woman to get her property from her, and it was stated that they appealed to the Court of Cas sation against the judgments ordering them to restore Les Feuillans and Mennevilliers; also that the decision with respect to the Sarcus property concerned Leveque and not them On the part of the Archbishop it was further represented that he is the spiritual and not the temporal superior of Picpus, and consequently not responsible for its temporal acts; and on the part of the ladies it was urged that they were not responsible in law. The counsel of the defendants, however, delivered a glowing sulogium on the Archbishop of the Picpus community. The Court said that the first point it had to decide was whether or not the Archbishop and the lady superiors of the community were, under the circumstances, the proper parties to proceed against; and it deided that they were, and that consequently the decision of the Tribunal declaring the contrary must be quashed. With regard to the merits of the case, the Court said that the facts alleged were such as to call for inquiry, and it authorized the plaintiffs to produce proof of their allegation.

A FREE FIGHT. - We learn from the True Democrat, the organ of the Sham Democracy of Mifflin county, that the Democracy of that county have a free fight on hand.

The Democratic Commissioners of the coun ty contracted quietly with Messrs. Myers and Gutshall, of Carlisle, to build a Jail for \$20, 000, contract was closed, 100 citizens of the county have published a card in the Democrat, alleging that H. R. Noll will do the same work for \$18,000 according to the plan and specifi cations of the Commissioners, and these citizens pledge themselves that he will give abundant security. Mr. Wm. Macklin, of Mc Vey town, says in a card that he will do the work for \$17,000, and give ample security.

Mr. Samuel Hollman, of Harrisburg, has authorized the Democrat to say that he will put up a better building on a better plan than the one agreed on for the sum of \$20,000. Remonstrances are circulating all over the county, and the people are signing freely against this last out-rage of the Sham Democracy.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, in this country, was organised in Philadelphia about the year 1698. Its first pastor was Rev. Jededish Andrews, who continued to exercise his ministry in that charge until his death, in 1747. The first Presbytery was organized under the name of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, about the year 1705; and the first person licensed and ordained by this body to preach was Mr. John Boyd, in the following year .-

Twar is a beautiful figure of Winthrop's, in reference to our Constitution, where he says:

"Like one of those wondrous rocking stones

THERE were in the U.S. Navy, during the