

THE COMING OF THE STORM.

What darkens in the west?
 (Hark, how the gulls are calling!)
 The spread black hand of the storm
 That grows with the twilight's falling.

What gathers in the east?
 (Hark, how the beaches rattle!)
 The march of the columned clouds
 That gather to the battle.

Dark and slow, row on row,
 The ranks of the east assemble,
 And under their line the sea's ranks shine,
 And the long shores quake and tremble.

The swift scud streams, the white foam gleams,
 And fierce shall the onset be;
 And God be his help that strives to-night
 With the armies of the sea.

Black ridges with white, mad manes'
 Beaches that roar and rattle,
 And a wind that ranges the wild sea line,
 Driving the waves to battle.

—*Harvard Monthly.*

A RONDEAU EASTER.

At Easter time I feel the thrill
 Responsive to a bonnet bill,
 Which cometh in unasked, unsought—
 The aftermath of bonnets bought,
 And other things which lightly fill
 The wish of woman, and her will
 To keep it up until—until
 I rip and swear, because I'm caught
 At Easter time.

The holy rest, the gladsome still,
 Which gently as a purring rill
 Should soothe my soul and calm my thought,
 Are busted as they hadn't ought
 To be by this same bonnet bill
 At Easter time.

W. J. L.

LITTLE APRIL FOOLS.

Shy little pansies
 Tucked away to sleep,
 Wrapped in brown blankets
 Piled snug and deep.
 Heard in a day dream
 A bird singing clear,
 "Wake, little sweethearts,
 The springtime is here!"

Glad little pansies
 Stirring from their sleep,
 Shook their brown blankets
 Off for a peep.
 Put on their velvet hoods,
 Purple and gold,
 And stood all a tremble
 Abroad in the cold.

Snowflakes were flying,
 Skies were grim and gray,
 Bluebird and robin
 Had scurried away;
 Only the cruel wind
 Laughed as it said,
 "Poor little April fools,
 Hurry back to bed!"

—*Exchange.*

FIRST AND LAST.

First puff,
 Sick enough.
 First beer,
 Feels queer.
 First whiskey,
 Feels frisky.
 First rum,
 Very glum.
 Brandy mash,
 Mental crash.
 All combined,
 Shattered mind.
 All done,
 Hearse for one.

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