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THE FOOTSTEPS OF DECAY.

Oh, let the soul its slumbers break-Arouse its senses, and awake To see how soon Life, in its glories, glides away, And the stern footsteps of decay Come stealing on.

And while we view the rolling tide Down which our flowing minutes glide Away so fast. Let us the present hour employ

And deem each future dream a joy

Already past. Let no vain hope deceive the mind, Ne happier let us hope to find To-morrow than to-day Our golden dreams of vore were bright Like them the present shall delight-

Our lives like lasting streams must be That into the engulting sea Are doomed to fall-The sea of death, whose waves roll on O'er king and kingdom, crown and throne, And swallow all.

Alike the river's lordly tide. Alike the rivulet's humble glide To that sad wave Death levels poverty and pride Within the grave.

Our birth is but a starting place Life is but the running of the race And death the goal ; There all our glittering toys are bought, The path alone, of all unsought, Is found of all.

See, then, how poor and little worth Are all those glittering toys of earth. That lure us here-Dreams of a sleep that death must break ; Alas! before it bids us awake, We disappear.

The cheek's pure glow of red and white, He passed away ; Youth smiled, and all was heavenly fair-Age came and laid his finger there-And where are they?

Where is the strength that spurned decay, The steps that roved so light and gay, The heart's blithe tone? The strength is gone, the step is slow, And joy grows wearisome and woe,

> When age comes on! MISCELLANY.

may have been required to waft it from your lips to the ears of your listener, but when once spoken, it was past recall. It revealed the secret motives and brought to light the hidden thoughts of your heart. Ah! the word may have been a thoughtless one spoken in an unguarded moment; but it left its impress and may be remembered.

waters, hes a small village on a considerable hight, over the high road. Behind the village towers a barren rock, from which look down the remains of an ancient knightly castle. The small village has no church, but only a handsome school-house. In this there lived, some years ago, a brave schoolmaster named—stop, I must not name either the village or the man, because perhaps be still lives there, and might perhaps he still lives there, and might not like to be talked about, even by the

not like to be talked about, even by the little people who may read this story.

The schoolmaster and his wife had eight children. That was a rich blessing from God, but with the narrow income which the place afforded it was also no small charge. One hundred and fifty thalers income for the whole year is not much—it comes to barely half a thaler per diem; and if ten people, with a healthy appetite, are daily fed and clothed for that, even on the homeliest German fare, it is easy to see that German fare, it is easy to see that housekeeping will cost no little work

or self denial.

In the pleasant schoolhouse, therefore, the daily fare was both scanty and simple. Potatoes were the first and last dish both at dinner and supper. They had not even butter to eat with their bread, but only salt, and in the morning a dish of porridge or bread and milk, and on Sunday a cup of weak master's table. However, both parents and children were active and healthy, and the latter flourished like roses.

With all their poverty they were a very happy family, for the blessing of God dwelt visibly in the house, and love and peace reigned among parents and children. The schoolmaster was love and peace reigned among parents and children. The schoolmaster was faithful and industrious in his work, and his school did him great credit.

him, and his superiors honored him for his industry and fidelity. day to day their need increased; the more the children grew, the more did they require clothes and boots. The they require clothes and boots. The watching the heavens prayerfully, and the streaming tears reneved him. There he sat still and alone watching the heavens prayerfully, and consoled himself with the verse these was the anxiety as to how they were to obtain the means to educate the elder children, who were now well grown. The schoolmaster was of a Godfearing and pious disposition. When at any time his heart was full and heavy, he retired into his chamber and prayed to his Heavenly Father, and was comforted; but he could not bear to see tears in his wife's eyes. This distressed him greatly, and the weight

Did you ever think how much power is vested in a word? It may have caused but a little exertion on your part to utter it. Only a single breath may have been required to well the cause of the poor. The harvest had been a bad one, and a terrible potato disease followed. The price of provisions rose fast and threateningly. Our sions rose fast and threateningly. Our brave schoolmastsr had much to bear that year for the sake of his family. He had a bill at the shoemaker's for 25 some time for the money; but in his

"What is hope?"

"Hope is the blossom of happiness."

"What is the difference between hope and desire?"

"Desire is a tree in leaf, hope is a tree in flower, and enjoyment is a tree in fruit."

"What is eternity?"

"A day without yesterday or to-morrow; a line that has no end."

"What is time?"

"A line that has two ends; a path which begins in the cradle and ends in the tomb?"

"What is God?"

"The necessary being, the sum of eternity, the merchant of nature, the eye of justice, the watchmaker of the universe, the soul of the world."

Does God reason?"

"Man reasons, because he doubts:"

Not far from the village was the king's highway, near to where our brarve schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had never seen in trave schoolmaster lived. He was glad of this; for, although he had ne

take you at your word, and mend the

If he school children were trained to sing capitally, for he was himself well grounded in music, and instructed them it. His domestic as well as hispublic life was without a single blemish. For his reason the parish made much of him, and his superiors honored him for its industry and fidelity.

But the poor schoolmaster, though relieved of that care, went away with a heavy heart. The tears came into his eyes when he thought of the immediate future, and wondered what would become of them. He did not wish to go home with a troubled and careworn face, to cause fresh sorrow to his wife. He went first into the open fields, and on to his favorite place on the mounpost for twelve long years, only en-couraged by his faithful wife. From tain. There he wept with his whole

> brook, wiped away all traces of tears, and went home cheerfully. Fortunately his wife did not ask what the shoe-maker had said. She knew well what they owed him, and he had evidently kept the boots; so it was clear he had undertaken to repair them—and for the rest, God would care! And, as she did not ask, her husband did not tell her of the promise he had made to the shoe-

> On Sunday morning, when the school master had already dressed for going to church, the boots arrived, to his and his wife's great joy. The bill was sent with them. It was made out in rather a crabbed and curious manner, and read

house to the children, who were stand-ing already in rank and file, and greeted him with "Good morning, master," in loud and cheerful voices. He arranged the little multitude, and led them slowly out of the village to the road over which the king would drive.

the boots, and he wondered whether and yet with dignity. The king said,

dered to deliver over a sum, together regular out-line. Dimples were in par with the bill, to the burgomaster of the town, with directions to pay the debt at was not allowed to attain its full growth once, and forward the receipted bill to upon his handsome face. His mouth

our friend sat with his wife alone in their parlor. The children were all gone to rest. The moon shone clear and bright through the window, and the careful wife, who was glad to save candles and oil, was knitting by the clear rays of the friendly luminary. The heart of her husband was depressed after the excitement of the previous day. He

"Who can that be ?" said the woman. No neighbor comes so late. "It is I," answered the voice of the deacon, who was in the habit of delivering official papers when they were addressed to members of his congrega-tion. The schoolmaster opened the door, and the deacon gave him a letter with the words "From the burgomaster

-," and went away. "A letter from the burgomaster! to his own moral nature. He basked in What can be want with me?" said the the rich treasures of love, but knew no What can be want with me? said the schoolmaster as he stepped back into the room. His wife went out and His career seemed onward when I fetched a candle, lit it, and placed it on the table while he broke the seal and

lina.

sitting on a safe rock near the shore reading some newspaper items about

the boots, and he wondered whether the shoemaker would undertake to repair them, although he owed him first and the hymn and nellody are unknown to me; perhaps you have a copy at hand? The schoolmaster bowed, felt in his reast pocket and produced the copy of the hymn and nellody are unknown to me; perhaps you have a copy at hand? The schoolmaster bowed, felt in his reast pocket and produced the copy of the hymn and nellody are unknown to me; perhaps you have a copy at hand? The schoolmaster bowed, felt in his reast pocket and produced the copy of the hymn and he with explanations and entreatises tried on work his heart.

The shoemaker was not a hard man; he knew well what it was to wish to pay a debt and not to be able to do so, even with the best intentions, and he had often asked for payment, as he h

was sweetly formed, and a smile irradi

after the excitement of the previous day. He was considering how he should tell his wife of his promise to the shoemaker, and how he should prepare her for the selling of the covered the selling the se pare her for the selling of the cow. upon him, without being conscious of There was a knock at the door. wrong to triffe with all hearts spell bound by his enchantment. He be-guiled with a smile, deceived with a tim. He flattered and caressed and

stands of the word paronet, who, it appears, was an antiquary. The main device was an eagle with a shield on his breast holding in one talon an ofive branch, and in the other a bundle of arrows, and bearing in his beak a scroll with the now familiar motto, E Pluribus Unum, one out of many. Without further parley this was adopted, and thus the scal of the United States came from England.

"Our souls met" in a buggy ride in the country. He declared his love, and his feelings (I am honest in confessing were reciprocated. Yet he never proposed a marriage. He had communitated the same thrilling and interesting cated the same thrilling and interesting the same thrilling and interesting cated the same thrilling and interesting thrilling and interesting the same thrilling and interesting thrilling and interesting thrilling thrilling and interesting thrilling some of the species, assume the shape of spiny processes along the ridge of the back and the median line of the understand him. There was such a power of fascination, so much beauty, such a seeming depth of candor and sets of two and three, the toes of each in his manners, his bearing set being webbed down to the claws, and his attentions that all were willing to "hug a delusion," and compromise with doubts and misgivings in believing him a lover in earnest. Each young lady was ready to contest that his aperture in the centre for the very small pupil. There is no external ear. The tongue is extensible to the length of half the length of the animal, that is, from five to seven inches. The lungs from five to seven inches. The lungs from five to seven inches. The lungs is extensible to the length of the animal, that is, from five to seven inches. The lungs is provided at a certain kind lady's house, who had an eye for thought is generally the first as well. If it is important for you to know are large, and connect with air-cells girl would often come and beg for the underlying the skin. The neck is so nose and ears of the meat to carry home short as to prevent the head from being to her poor mother. She always got it. turned from side to side. Though the chameleon is arboreal in its habits, it steps now, nursing a hog's head in her Languages are useful to

> covered with loose earth. The immobility of the chameleon distinguishes it markedly from the rest of the lizard tribe, which are generally active and quick in their movements. Alfred Brehm, who received as a present form the African explorer, Schweinfurth, a number of these animals, states that the chameleon wave moves at all. that the chameleon never moves at all except from necessity; it will remain in one position on a branch or twig for hours at a time, firmly grasping with tail and paws the object on which it is perched. The eyes, on the contrary, are nearly always in motion. When preying on winged insects, the chameleon is seen occasionally to protrade the knobbed end of his tongue, and in an instant that member is shot forth and again retracted, bearing the prey an instant that member is shot forth and again retracted, bearing the prey into the captor's mouth. The extremity of the tongue exudes a sticky substance on which the prey is caught. When flies and other winged insects are not to be had, the chameleon's swivel eyes scan the trunk of the tree, and the branches above, below, and on all sides is approaching the spot where the chamleon is lying, he waits till it comes within striking distance, and then "dis
> look the days of her beggary so square in the face, and never with blush or quiver? The answer to this she gave the lady: "For," said she, "you know I always behaved myself, and went to Sunday school every Sunday." Yes, we remember some Christians gave her a dress and shoes to go to Sunday school in. The kind lady will not go aboard steamers because the noise of their whistling is abominately read to the people's ideas worry him; and now refuses to travel by rail because he met with an accident some time ago. His last trip by carriage cost him \$350, within striking distance, and then "discharges" his tongue at it. But, if the tors ever parted their hair in the middle, and he hates that mode of conveyance. creature is travelling away from him, he pursues, though with grave delibera- and good behavior did for a poor little

The large, projecting eye-balls of the chameleon are capable of a great variety of movements; and, what is very curithe table while he broke the seal and read the letter hastily.

"Can it be possible!" was his exclamation as he finished it,
His wife sprang in astonishment and fear to his side. Their eyes fell on the shoemaker's bill, under which stood these words: "Paid, with thanks.

Taking Wegner."

him in the surging current of time and events.

Years waned and summers vanished.
A gentle rap was heard and answered at our chamber door. A tall, gaunt, attennated figure stood there, spectre-like. Was it a dream—a vision? No.
A tattered son of fortune stood upon the threshold and knocked for entrance. these words: "Paid, with thanks. Tobias Werner.

What could this mean? She could not comprehend the matter; but her husband clasped his hands, and looked, prayerfully and deeply moved, toward heaven. Then he related all to his faithful wife—what had passed between him and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their magic was not lost. A some-lim and the shoemaker; then the prom—their making a plea, when a lost, the direct its glances on all sides, without the necessity of calling into leave the plow and become a lawyer like boy, the son of a farmer, resolved to gont. Recently a gentleman in Devon-play any muscles save those of the eye-like Rufus Choate, the formation in the shoemaker without the necessity of calling into leave the plow and become a lawyer like Rufus Choate. He accordingly went to Boston, called on Mr. Choate, and said to him: "I heard your ples alternated with rhus tox or arnica, and up in our town, and I have a desire to leave the plow and become a lawyer like Rufus Choate. We Hampshire making a plea, when a boy, the son of a farmer, resolved to be leave the plow had been the play any muscles save those of the eye like. Still, when about to strike, the leave the plow and become a lawyer like yet the leave the plow and become a lawyer l

affect the entire surface of the animal, or one or other of its sides, or may appear only in spots. M. Paul Bert, a French savant, has for some time been back to ploughing. The work is not near as hard, and it pays better."

"Well, that is about the savant will go versation, no matter if you are as beautiful as an angel, you have no attraction for them. It is the true loveliness of your nature that wins and continues to retain the affections of the heart. liquid is all retained in these vesicles, the animal's skin appears yellowish, that being the color of the semi-transparent epidermis. When the liquid is injected into the ducts, the color of the animal changes, the tint depending on the degree of tension in the ducts. If a nerve be cut, the region of the chameleon's body to which that nerve was distributed becomes at once a deep block and yellow many accurate the Duke of Wellington was they bestow not a thought on their minds. Fools may be won by gewgaws and the fashionable by showy dresses; but the wise and substantial are never caught by such trans. Let modesty the distributed becomes at once a deep block and was long accustomed to the fool, the good and truly great will love to linger by your side.

"In Paris," "it is quite common to see a mother dragging her almost infant child by the hand, weary and fretful, and carrying a dog in her arms, which for figure, and enjoyment is a tree, and enjoyment is a tree and the first and the fir

Little Brown Acorn.

Nose and Ears,-It takes us back to is very slow in its movements. It is arms. The kind lady moved to this conditions, and they equally open them unprovided with any weapons of de-State. Some weeks since we visited the entrance e ther to the most profense against its enemies. The female this lady at her home.

nse against its enemies. The female sys about thirty eggs, which are desisted in a hollow in the ground, and been to see me, a fine lady-like woman, and so handsomely dressed?

that the chameleon never moves at all town, and her house one of the neatest the reefs looked like a wreath of bluish

ragged beggar.

MR. CHOATE AND THE AMBUTTOUS BOY A great many boys mistake their enough to find it out in as good season as this one did. It is said that Enfus smithle for persons so afficient

will print for you the last words of the Duke of Wellington, "if you please."

When the Duke of Wellington was they bestow not a thought on their "if you please" will make you better served than all the cross or ordering words in the whole dictionary. Do not forget three little words—"If you

NO. 18.

Singular. - To see a garden walk

Bounty, being free itself, thinks all The thought of eternity consoles for

the shortness of life. Cruelty is a draft upon humanity all are too poor to pay.

The texts which dishonest people like

Some people's judgment is that of a What a wedding when the Darien

A country friend calls fashionable

So long as you are innocent fear

The last gentleman in a lady's If it is important for you to know whether a man will cheat you if he can

conditions, and they equally open them found, or the most easy and entertain.

His last trip by carriage cost him \$350, John, go West, sing your own praises

eous than the late Lord Derby. Every one has heard the story of the wine merchant, who, hearing that the late suitable for persons so afflicted, where-Choate, the great lawyer, was once in upon the Earl returned the wine with New Hampshire making a plea, when a letter stating that he preferred the

Some interesting facts were shown by the latest English census: In England and Wales the females of the popquence is that, when the animal is and I will see how you get on."

The poor boy began. An hour passed, ward of half a million; but above the males to move its own way.

His back ached, his head and legs ached.

His back ached, his head and legs ached. the females in number. While there were 400,000 widowers, there were 873, 000 widows. Above the age of ninety females numbered two to every male, The number of centenarians had de creased during the last forty years notwithstanding the increase in population There were in the southeastern counties, with two millions of population, 1,086 nonagenariwas, while in London, with three and a quarter millions there

Cheshire, with a similar aggregate pop-

ulation, only 585. It is not your neat dress, your expensive shawls, or your ringed fingers that attract the attention of men of sense.

A reckless Bavarian, who prided himself upon his skill as a marksman, recently bethought himself of a crowning proof of his unerring aim. He thereupon led his son, a lad of II years to a certain spot and paced off seventy yards. Upon the boy's head thus with his rifle to the distance of 210 feet, he called upon his friends who ous and heartless act to observe that he should cut the apple in two without harming his child. He deliberately raised his weapon, fired and cut the apple in the middle, leaving the child