



AFTERWARD.

O strange, O sad perplexity, O blind and gloomy night, Faith faintly questions, Can there be an afterward of light?

MIGNONNE.

"That? Oh, that's my small sister, Mignonne. An uncommon face, rather, isn't it?" and Jack Chandran glanced at the rough sketch of his visitor had unearthed from an old sketch-book.

SONS OF GUNS.

John William Blank belonged to the Ancient and Modern and Highly Honorable Sons of Guns of Detroit. If it were a fact, it was some of the finest order which met on Monday night and pays so much to the heirs of every member who happens to die.

WITH A RED HOT BALL.

It was one August day—the twenty-first of a certain anniversary—that a party of friends found themselves in the shadow of the Cathedral of St. Peter at Rome. As we lounged about in the twilight of the basilica, we remembered with a sigh the glowing squares outside, the tapering obelisk in its center—so like the one in New York—the fountains spouting with their water dust like great snow-white tiger-lilies striped with rainbow, and the outstretched colonnades of the sculptor-architect, Bernini, closing round the front of the church like the claws of a gigantic crab.

THE HOTEL CLERK.

The most troublesome guest in the world is the hotel clerk. He will come to the rural district. He will come to Washington and order a suite of rooms for his family, an office for himself and reception rooms for his constituents.

ERIC'S BROS.

A peculiar fact is told in connection with the recent sale of the Fontaine collection of bric-a-brac in London. The sale of which realized a total of \$455,555. It seems that in 1808, when it was proposed to place a memorial to Addison in the city of London, there were difficulty in finding a suitable site for the monument.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF PARIS.

A great trade in paper bottles is growing up in Germany and Austria. Ten and six per cent. of rags, of straw, and fifty of brown wood pulp are used in making them. This paper is coated and impregnated with a solution composed of sulphate of iron, sulphate of copper, thirty-five of lime, and five of sulphate of ammonia; dry and coat again; put ten or twelve sheets together and then dry in heated moulds under pressure. They are made in two pieces and joined afterward, and are said to be perfectly proof against spirits and other liquids.

WANTING TO BE A BROTHER.

There are several sorts of fishes which are armed with poisonous spines, and many which have poisonous flesh. Vanilla, most commonly used in French cuisine is said to have discovered, leads to a disease which is called "Vanillism." Twenty years ago the number of Parisians of all denominations in France was 15,000; the total is at present 44,000,000.

THE DEBT OF OUR REPUBLIC.

While the debt of our republic has been reduced to \$1,545,000,000, that of France is almost 4,000,000,000, and still rolling upward. New Mexico embraces 77,686,610 acres of land, on which about 5,000,000 head of cattle, over 3,000,000 of sheep, are kept.

THE LOSS OF LIFE BY THE ISCHIA EARTHQUAKE.

The loss of life by the Ischia earthquake is now estimated as 8,000. The precise number of lives lost will perhaps never be known. An aromatic detachment of engineers has been formed in Berlin, and is hard at work on the art and practice of military ballooning.

THE PLANETARY SOCIETY.

London has seventy-six guilds, endowed by royal benefactors for the benefit of the different trades and the trust property alone yield an income of £200,000 annually. In the five years from 1877 to 1881 the average annual loss of British seamen was 1,622. In 1882 it had risen to 2,113, and in 1883, 3,500, at the date of the latest returns.

THE GERMAN RAILWAYS.

The German railways have a total length of 30,000 kilometers—equal to about 18,750 English miles—and an aggregate capital of about three hundred millions sterling. Three-fourths of them are State lines. It is stated that on one of the arms of a mutilated cross which is the dead chamber in the Cathedral at Bremen, and who died 170 years ago, is a well-preserved dove of the style known as the Sarah Bernhardt.

THE MAYOR OF DUBLIN.

The Mayor of Dublin, Charles Dawson, L.P., is a baker, and of his numerous wagons that are to be seen daily on the streets, one serves the Marlborough House regularly. From the complete returns of the last French census it appears that the female sex exceeds the male by 122,254—thus, males, 18,556,518, females, 18,778,772. Of the males 10,110,691 are unmarried.

THE MAYOR OF DUBLIN.

Six New York boys devised a novel way in which to spend their summer vacation. They organized a mounted troupe and set out on a tour of the State. White Plains was their first stand and the oldest inhabitants say they never saw anything equal to that minstrel show in atrocity. It opened with a musical melange by the company, which held the audience spell-bound with horror. The next piece was a song by one of the young boys, whose identity was concealed under a burlesque. The agony of his singing changed the horror to delirium. He then attempted a stump speech. This was a demand for the masses to be visited by a peripatetic political orator, and the audience made a wild dash for the stage and cornered the whole troupe in one of the dressing rooms. But the ministers got the door barred and kept out the while they made terms of peace. One of them finally ventured out and set up a whole keg of beer on the street. There was a demand for two kegs, and while the dispute was yet under way the other five minstrels escaped by a back door to their hotel and locked themselves in their rooms. They are supposed to have spent the night in devising another plan of spending their holidays as they took the first train north.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF PARIS.

A recently completed inventory, contains 2,500,000 volumes. The cabinet of manuscripts contains 92,000 volumes, eight times in boards or in portfolios, as well as 14,000 medals of all periods, both French and foreign. Out of a total area of nearly 21,000,000 acres, the woods and copse of Ireland are now less than 330,000 acres. In Great Britain, out of nearly 57,000,000 acres, 2,500,000 are now returned. The forests of Europe are estimated to cover 500,000,000 acres, or nearly 20 per cent. of the surface of the continent.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

—Leprosy is said to be alarmingly on the increase on the Pacific slope. —The system of hydrophaty was practiced by the Arabs in the tenth century. —London has 43 theatres, including the suburban houses, an increase of 25 in about twenty years. —A leather cannon was proved at Edinburgh in 1778, fired three times and pronounced good. —A Chinese doctor is reported to have been visiting the vicinity of Deadwood, Dakota, lately. —There are several sorts of fishes which are armed with poisonous spines, and many which have poisonous flesh. —Vanilla, most commonly used in French cuisine is said to have discovered, leads to a disease which is called "Vanillism." —Twenty years ago the number of Parisians of all denominations in France was 15,000; the total is at present 44,000,000. —There are 229 varieties of cherries, 60 of apricots, 252 of peaches, 1087 of pears and 297 of plums, a pomological writer says. —Twenty years ago there were but two women doctors in the United States, and now there are more than eight hundred. —Baltimore, it is said, possesses a master of a vessel who has acted in that capacity for sixty years without losing a load of a cabin. —The whole import of from meat for last year was about 200,000 carcasses—equal to one week's meat-consumption for London. —While the debt of our republic has been reduced to \$1,545,000,000, that of France is almost 4,000,000,000, and still rolling upward. —New Mexico embraces 77,686,610 acres of land, on which about 5,000,000 head of cattle, over 3,000,000 of sheep, are kept. —South Georgia and Florida, it is expected, will throw upon the market this season about three thousand carloads of water-melons. —There are more colored people in Georgia than there are Indians in the whole country. —Georgia's negro population about 750,000. —A poor yield of cedar logs in 1883 has discouraged their planting in Kansas this year, and the acreage of nearly 75 per cent. or 32,223 acres. —The piano-forte used by Beethoven during the latter part of his life is on sale at Zurich. Its genuineness is vouched for by documentary proofs. —The loss of life by the Ischia earthquake is now estimated as 8,000. The precise number of lives lost will perhaps never be known. —An aromatic detachment of engineers has been formed in Berlin, and is hard at work on the art and practice of military ballooning. —Between two and three thousand tons of salt are used annually on the Pacific coast, in the reduction of silver ores and other metallurgical operations. —Seventy-nine geographical societies, distributed throughout the world, were in existence at the beginning of this year, with a total membership of 28,500. —The "Bo" tree, in Amaraopora, Burmah, is said to be the oldest tree on earth. The date of its planting, 288 B. C., rests, it is claimed, upon historic documents. —Frank Johnson, of Oseola, Ill., hid in a cave a year ago on the approach of a cyclone and cannot be made to leave his retreat. His wife carries provisions to him. —Suicides are increasing in France. Last year's statistics show that the number of women who died by their own hands was one third more than the number for 1882. —London has seventy-six guilds, endowed by royal benefactors for the benefit of the different trades and the trust property alone yield an income of £200,000 annually. —In the five years from 1877 to 1881 the average annual loss of British seamen was 1,622. In 1882 it had risen to 2,113, and in 1883, 3,500, at the date of the latest returns. —The Mayor of Dublin, Charles Dawson, L.P., is a baker, and of his numerous wagons that are to be seen daily on the streets, one serves the Marlborough House regularly. —From the complete returns of the last French census it appears that the female sex exceeds the male by 122,254—thus, males, 18,556,518, females, 18,778,772. Of the males 10,110,691 are unmarried. —The German railways have a total length of 30,000 kilometers—equal to about 18,750 English miles—and an aggregate capital of about three hundred millions sterling. Three-fourths of them are State lines. It is stated that on one of the arms of a mutilated cross which is the dead chamber in the Cathedral at Bremen, and who died 170 years ago, is a well-preserved dove of the style known as the Sarah Bernhardt. —At Bingers, New South Wales, the discovery of a new diamond field has been discovered, which promises to rival the Kimberley diamond deposits of South Africa. A considerable number of fine diamonds have been discovered in the last few months. —Six thousand manures are believed to lie in some one hundred carloads in an immense necropolis, whose discovery by a Prof. Maspero, at Ekmeen, between Assiout and Thebes is reported. Much papyrus, fennel and funeral treasures are expected. —The Mayor of Oakland, Cal., has ordered the revival of the old custom of ringing the curfew bell every evening at 9 o'clock, with responses from the steeple. The engine houses, and the police are to arrest all boys under 15 in the street after that hour. —The National Library of Paris, by a recently completed inventory, contains 2,500,000 volumes. The cabinet of manuscripts contains 92,000 volumes, eight times in boards or in portfolios, as well as 14,000 medals of all periods, both French and foreign. —Out of a total area of nearly 21,000,000 acres, the woods and copse of Ireland are now less than 330,000 acres. In Great Britain, out of nearly 57,000,000 acres, 2,500,000 are now returned. The forests of Europe are estimated to cover 500,000,000 acres, or nearly 20 per cent. of the surface of the continent.