Democrat

THE BLESSINGS OF GOVERNMENT, LIKE THE DEWS OF HEAVEN, SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED A.

NEW SERIES.

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Select Boetry.

A GLORIOUS LAND.

BY W. J. PABODIE.

Our country !--'tis a glorious land ! With broad arms stretch'd from shore to shore The proud Pacific chafes her strand, She hears the dark Atlantic roar; And, nurtured on her ample breast, How many a goodly prospect lies In Nature's wiklest, grandeur drest, Enamel'd with her lovelicst dyes.

Rich prairies deck'd with flowers of gold, Like sun-lit oceans roll afar; Broad lakes her azure heavens behold Reflecting clear each trembling star, And mighty rivers, mountain born, Go sweeping onward dark and deep, Through forests where the bounding fawn Beneath their sheltering branches leap.

And cradled 'mid her clustering hills, Sweet vales in dream-like beauty hide, Where love the air with music fills, And calm content and peace abide. For plenty here her fullness pours, In rich profusion o'er the land, And sent to seize her generous store, 'There prowls no tyrant's hireling band.

Where wanderers from afar may come, And breathe the air of liberty ! Still may her flowers untrampled spring, Her harvests wave, her cities rise; And yet, till Time shall fold his wing, Remain Earth's loveliest paradise!

usually occurred when the amisble old bachelor and his faithful steward met to discuss the affairs of his estate; not that Hobson was less kindly in his disposition than his worthy

naster, but he was more prudent. Mr. Oswald's uncle, from whom he inherit-Mr. Oswald's uncle, from whom he inherit-ed his property, had selected Hobson from the workhouse, and substituting for the paro-chial livery his own, had made him his foot-boy, and he had conducted himself so much to the satisfaction of his employers, that in the course of years he had attained his present course of years he had attained his present eminence, and by his economy had accumu-lated some property; he did not however, for-get his original low degree, and for fear that pride should get the better of him, as he said, he gave an annual dinner to the boys and girls of the parish school in which he had been educated, upon the anniversary of his entering the family at the great house. He was now a hale, hearty man, with a "frosty pow," and, like his master, single; not that this was the effect of choice exactly, for he had, when about the age of twenty, paid some attention to the pretty dairy-maid of the estab-lishment, but she jilted him, and caused him some silent sorrow by running off with the

lishment, but she jilted him, and caused him some silent sorrow by running off with the sergeant of a recruiting party, who was, at the time "beating up" in the village Three years afterwards the poor deluded girl returned to her native place, ragged and forlorn, leading by the hand a little boy. The soldier had deserted the foolish girl and gone abroad. Shame and misery, want and weari-ness had transformed the once lovely girl to ness, had transformed the once lovely girl to a picture of squalidness and despair.

It was a beautiful evening in autumn when Hobson met his first love, slowly approaching the village He did not, nay could not recog-nise her; she held out her hand to him im-

nise her; she held out her hand to him im-ploringly. "My poor woman," said Hobson, "you appear worn out with fatigue. Here is some-thing to get you both a bed and some supper." "William," said she, clasping her hands, don't you know the wretched Mary?" "Mary, impossible!" exclaimed Hobson, trembling, as he vainly tried to trace some

lineament of one who had caused him so much pain.

EBENSBURG, APRIL 18, 1855.

"Sir,-The sudden and lamented death of "Sir,—The sudden and lamented death of Captain Mortimer compels me humbly to re-quest your compliance with the following pro-posal. There are five years unexpired of the lease of the house I now occupy. I am fully aware of my liability; but under this afflict-ing and unexpected bereavement, I trust you will cancel the deed and relieve me from the heavy responsibility. I will of course, relin-quish all claim to the premium, &c." "I know that I am asking a great favor, but the distressing circumstances, I hope, will plead an apology for one who wishes to act uprightly and honestly. Your reply will much oblige, any your most obedtent, homeble

¹¹ I know the is not interval.
¹¹ When the distribution of the state of th slang of hard-hearted prudence. I would have discharged the flint long ago; but I am afraid I could not find another who would fulfil his duties so well. I have laid your communication on the table, and defer my communication on the table, and defer my answer till Friday, when I intend to avail my-self of your friendly invite. Pay my best respects to Mrs. Walmer, and endeavor to soothe the angry feelings of my dear Emily "The one who presents this has charge of a bouquet of choice exotics for my little pet-a sort of propitiating sacrifice, which, I trust, for my peace and happiness, will be favora-bly received. "Present my respectful compliments to

widow.

"Present my respectful compliments to your amiable spouse, and believe me, my dear Ned, your sincere friend, "V. OSWALD."

frequently returned at a late hour from par-ties, he requested that no one should be in-convenienced as he should let himself in, and merely requested a lamp to be left burning on the marble slab in the hall. With the ser-Too generous to inflict any unnecessary pain, by permitting the widow to remain in suspense, Mr. Oswald had no sooner dispatch-ed his letter than he had made his toilette and went forth, with the kind intention of getting a personal interview with his tenant, and set-ting all her fears at rest, by at once intimating to her his decision of acceding unconditionally the marble shab in the hall. With the ser-vants he soon became as great a favorite as with their mistress, for he paid them liberally for what he was pleased to call extra trouble. The hairdresser attended every morning at ten

to give not abe was really fond of the old beau, and de incoments lighted in his company and conversation, which abe joined in without any of that reserve which the would, no doubt, very naturally have ex-hibited towards one of her own age; besider ed him for his generous conduct towards her "Then, madam," said Mr. Oswald, "we rill consider the affair definitely settled. Will t by convenient to receive your new lodger on

mer was gratified at the exp

THE LOW, THE LICE AND THE POOR.

Under these circulastances Mrs. Mortimer's surprise and astonishment may be imagined when Mr Oswald really made a formal pro-posal for Mary's hand, for alas! his too tender and affectionate heart was already burnt up and shrivelled by the devouring flame of a most ardent passion. His was no schoolboy's affection, but deep sincere, and consuming— the result of his admirtion of the excellent the result of his admiration of the excellent qualities of her mind, rather than of her per-sonal charms. His hopes, his thoughts, and his wishes were all comented in this one ob-ject, and he trembled while he made his deat Mrs. Mortimer's, who was no less gratified than surprised by a note from Mr. Oswald, stating that he should take possession at nine o'clock the same evening. It was impossible to have had a more agree-able lodger; for Mr. Oswald paid punctually, and gave little trouble, spending almost the whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and although he force of the same even as the possession at nine whole of his time abroad; and the tears filled her even as the replied, "Mr. Oswald you affirst me "

"Mr. Oswald, you afflict me." "Then you reject me !" said he, quite has-

inlahed her education, syoung goatleman freezes her senior, who had recently taken legree at college, and who had promised lemand her band as soon as he should obta be means of supporting ber; and then beg-ed for the take of her mother that she might re permitted to quit the maternal roof, and re-side with a distant relative in the country.

VOL. 2. NO. 28.

After some hesitation, this reasonable re-quest was reluctantly complied with and Mrs. Mortimer instantly replied to Mr. Oswald's note, stating incidently that Miss Mortimer had left her on a visit for an indefinite period, and that she should be most happy to see him once more at _____Street.

good humor, attempting to deceive himself; but he did not deceive Mrs. Mortimer; for when she looked upon him she was shocked at the ravages which a few months had made in his handsome countenance, nay, even in his dress ; there was not that punctiliousness which he formerly affected, and which so distinguished him from the majority of the men of his age. There was an ill-convinced effort on the part of both to sustain the conversation. Later in the evening, however, his excitement gradually abated, and he became as kind and natural as usual.

"My dear Mrs. Mortimer," said Mr Oswald, "Mr. Oswald, you afflict me." "Then you reject me !" said he, quite has-tily. "No, sir," she replied; "your offer is too flattering to be rejected by me; but I am sel-fish enough to fear the consequences." "I fear nothing, my dear madam," inter-rupted Mr. Oswald, "but your refusal to ad-mit me as a suitor to your daughter. What-" Let us cast aside our masks and be ourselves "I'm guilty, William; but I'm punished," said Mary; and in a hoarse low voice, she continued, "I've come home to die. Wil-liam, you must hate me—but—but you've a good heart. This is my babe, mayhap you "A most generous one indeed have you worthy of her, it shall be my pleasure to pro duty to do so, as the only compensation I can offer for the trouble I have caused both to you and her, and I trust it will be the means of restoring to me that esteem and friendship which I have so sadly abused. Recall her, my dear madam, and bid her fear nothing from my importunities; but rely confidently on my good will to promote both her welfare and her bappiness. Mr. Valentine Oswald was as sincere as he was firm in his virtuous resolve; and generously obtained a lucrative situation under Government for the gentleman who had fore-stalled him in the affection of the widow's beautiful daughter, and he thus made the object of his unfortunate attachment happy, because content ; but he was an altered man ! and seeking for changes in foreigh climes, found a grave in Florence !

Select Cule.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer. THE PROPOSAL: CR. THE GENEROUS BACHELOR.

CHAPTER 1.-The Reward

Mr. Valentine Oswald was a bachelor on the wrong side of fifty, of a handsome per-son, set off to the greatest advantage by the most agreeable manners. A naturally good constitution was fortified against the insidious attacks of time by temperance and sobriety; added to which he possessed the best dispo-sition in the world, and a temper that was not easily ruffled, all which contributed to give a om to his cheek and a youthful glow to his feelings, which conduced to make him appear in the eyes of the world as still a promising youth, albeit, his performances exceeded his promises-for his purse as well as his hand was open as day to melting charity.

Possessed of a clear rental of three thonsand per annum, he yet frequently found himself in embarrassed circumstances. Being more generous than prudent-preferring the more polished society of the town to the cliques of the country—he left his estate to the management of his steward, with the in-junction never to distrain for rent. Old Hobson shook his head and demurred, and ventured to hint that the arrears under such circumstances would increase enormously.

"But, look ye Hobson," replied Mr. Oswald, "as long as it produces enough to pay your stipend, you individually have no cause

"If any of the tenants by losses or crosse are unable to pay the stipulated rent, examine them strictly, and if you find their statements them strictly, and if you find their statements true, remit a portion of my demand, for I pre-fer justice to law. But if you find a bad fath-er or husband, who spends his time in idle profligacy, punish him—that is, give him the legal notice to quit, and let him remove with all that is his; for whatever he may possess he is a beggar in perspective, while we shall be gainers for getting rid of him. If you see an industrious, clever agriculturist, who has not the means to carry on the improvements not the means to carry on the improvements he proposes and is able to carry them into ef-fect hat he the means—let us make him advances. For don't you see, Hobson, it will after all he only like the loan of a usurerthe industrious bee will thus be enabled to improve the property, and make honey for the drone—that is me!"

"Ob, yes ! you're very like a usur?"," said

"I am, Hobson," said Mr. Oswald "I am very fond of money, and heartily wish I had a hundred thusand pounds a year. What a deal of good a man might do with such a

"I doubt whether you would be better off at the year's end," replied Hobson. "What do you mean, sirrah?" exclaimed

Mr. Oswald.

"Why, that you'd spend every penny of " replied Hobson.

it," replied Hobson. "Well, sir," said Mr. Oswald, "and should I not be happier in having the means of assist-ing my less fortunate fellow creature? Hob-son, you are an honest old fellow, but you're a brute-you've no sentiment-no feeling." "I know it," said Hobson, "and I think myself very fortunate-for otherwise I could not stand the kicks and rubs I get, so quiet-by"

The foregoing characteristic dialogue was a

will not, when I'm gone, see the poor thing

Hobson was so shocked and agitated that he could not speak. He drew out a leathern bag of silver and poured the contents into the thin emaciated hand, and while tears filled thin emachated hand, and while tears filed his eyes leaped an adjoinin, stile, into a meadow, eager to lose sight of the spectre which had so troubled his soul. Mary, mean-while, pursued her way to the village, and found a refuge in the cottage of an old acquaintance, where in a few days her sufferings were terminated by death. Hobson however summed up sufficient cou-

rage to see and forgive the wretched woman, and took charge of her by, who was by his recommendation, a valued servant in the great house.

CHAPTER II .- The Widow

After the description of the person and amiable discosition of Mr. Valentine, Oswald, it is almost needless to state that he was an established favorite with the fairer portion of the creation. He was indeed a perfect lady's man. He dressed well; danced with grace; and was an excellent fencer-the latter accomplishment now going much out of fashion -giving a graceful ease and elegance to his

bearing. bearing. Whether old or young, he made no differ-ence in his attentions to the fair; and the bosom of many a beanty past her bloom beat with pleasure at his appearance; nay, his gallantry and good breeding went so far as to pluck many a solitary wall-flower from her

customary retirement, in order to show her off to advantage. He was, in truth, as they all declared, a "dear creature," creating the envy of none, and delighting all.

Although many young bucks of greater pretensions both in purse and person sneer-ingly called him the "old fellow," he feared no rivalry; for his refinement, his experience,

Besides his landed estates in the country he possessed several freehold houses in the metropolis, the management of which was in the hands of his solicitor in town-one of those honest lawyers who are an ornament to

" My dear Oswald, -I enclose you a letter from Mrs. Captain Mortimer, who occupies the house No. 18, ---- Street.

the house No. 18, — Street. "Captain Mortimer died lately, on his voy-age from Gibralter, and she is left a widow, with one daug ther to provide for. Her means, I believe, are inputed. Her marriage was one of those follies usually called a love-match, by which she gained a good husband and lost her friends, who thought she might have done batter

"Your early reply will set her fears at rest, and oblige, my dear Oswald, yours, ever, very truly. "E. WALMER.

"P. S. Will you dine with us on Friday, en famille? Mrs. W. says you neglect her, and Emily declares you're a most inconstant swain, and almost yows she will be engaged on the very next occasion when you the honor of her hand for the next quart

and furthermore hopes the opportunity showing her pique will speedily occur. The following enclosure was written in peat, ladvlike hand .--

a share in the cation, and chuckled at the ruse he had em

ployed in his correspondence to put him off his guard, and prevent him from forestalling nim in the charitable purpose he propo Mrs Mortimer was at home, and having sent in his card, Mr. Oswald was ushered into the drawing room, where she presently appeared to receive him She was a lady above forty, still handsome in person, and elegant in her manners. "Mr. Oswald?"

said she courtesying. "At your service, Madam," he replied, with a graceful bow.

"I have not the pleasure of knowing you, sir," she said.

"I am the unfortunate landlord of this tenement, madam," he rejoined

" Indeed, sir !" said Mrs. Mortimer: " but pray," continued she, smiling, " why unfortunate ???

" In the prospect of losing so respectable a tenant, madam.

"I too, sir, am grieved at the necessity which compels me to quit a house where I have spent so many happy hours," said the widow; but still, under my present circumstances, I shall be happy to quit it, and shall also feel grateful if you will allow me to resign a charge which my limited means will not allow me longer to retain."

"Whatever arrangement you may wish to make I will authorise my soliciter to accede to," replied Mr. Oswald. "He has already forwarded me your letter, which is the cause of my present intrusion."

"Say rather your considerate visit," re-joined the widow; "for which I am exceed-ingly grateful." Mr. Oswald bowed, and continued—" You

mention in your note that there are five years of the lease unexpired—pray what premium her state.' did Captain Mortimer pay on the last renewal "All ve for seven years ?"

"Three hundred and fifty pounds, sir," re-

"Three hundred and fifty pounds, sir," re-plied Mrs. Mortimer. "Three hundred and fifty pounds!" re-pcated Mr. Oswald. "Then if you persist in quitting the house you will in justice be entitled to two hundred and fifty. Excuse me, madam," continued he, seeing the widow about to speak, "I have placed the business in the hands of my solicitor, and you must comply with my terms, for the law is in my favor and I am very obstinate, and will have peated Mr. Oswald. "Then if you persist in quitting the house you will in Justice be entitled to two hundred and fifty. Excuse me, madam," continued he, seeing the widow about to speak, "I have placed the business in the hands of my solicitor, and you must comply with my terms, for the law is in my favor, and I am very obstinate, and will have my own way." "Sir," said the widow, the tears filling her "Sir," said the widow, the tears filling her

eyes, "I shall not contend the point with you. I thank you in my own name, and that of my fatherless daughter, for your most char-itable intentions."

"A mere matter of business, madam, aid Mr. Oswald, let's say no more about it. Will you now permit me to address you as a Will you now permit me to address you as a friend, and to ask you if there is no possibility of your still retaining this bouse, which ap-pears to be so tastefully furnished? Such things will produce but very little when brought to the hammer." "I intend, sir, to retain a portion of it," she replied, "just about sufficient to furnish a smaller house, and to add to my small in-come by letting a part in lodgings." "And pray what do the rent and taxes of this house amount to?" demanded Mr. Os-

daily received. On two or three when he came home unusually early, he re-quested the servant to oblige him by preparing tea, and Mrs Mortimer followed the equiprge, offering to officiate Mr. Oswald could not think of giving his

CHAPTER III.-A Proposal.

at Mrs. Mortimer's, who was no less gratified

Punctual at twelve o'clock on the following Monday the trunks of the new lodger arrived

landlady so much trouble ; and would only accede upon an arrangement that in future he should be her guest, which proved so agreeashould be her guest, which proved so agreea-ble, that by some unforeseen chance or other he frequently felt himself compelled to avail himself of her politeness dropping in just as the hall clock struck eight. And no wonder that they were mutually pleased with each other; for the lady's heart was overflowing with gratitude for the delicate

was overflowing with gratitude for the delicate manner in which he had compelled her to ac-cept his services in the hour of her tribulation, and he was charmed with the good breeding and ladylike manner of the widow In fine he never spent so many hours or found himself so much at home before.

Mr. Walmer, who had once called professionally, and found Mr. Oswald tete-a-tete with the handsome widow, took occasion to twit him upon his position—and threatened to tell his daughter Emily of his inconstancy—and thought, as the father of the deserted damsel, there might be some professional pickings, in the shape of an action for breach of promise, as he could bring witnesses to prove that out

as he could bring witnesses to prove that out of the sixteen summers that amiable young hady numbered, Mr. Oswald had paid her the most marked attention for at least fourteen ! "My dear Walmer," replied Mr. Oswald, "I confess I am very agreeably entertained. I am very happy, but not foolish. I esteem Mrs. Mortimer, because she entertains the most affectionate regard for the memory of her buckend and has assured use that poither husband, and has assured me that neither money nor merit will ever tempt her to change

"All very pretty," said Mr. Walmer; "but take care of yourself, Oswald. Beware of the platonics! Friendship is all very well between man and man, but between man and woman

it soon ripens into love." "I am armed at all points." replied Mr.

credulously, as one "convinced against his will." but desisted from further badinage. Love, who is really a tyrant, and ever pur-

Love, who is really a tyrant, and ever pur-sues with the greatest inveteracy those who defy his power, soon found means to vanquish our redoubtable here, who dared to boast of his invulnerability. His very confidence in his own security made him heedless, and he suddenly came upon the blind god in ambus-cade, and being unprepared, he fell a defence-less victim of his own hardihood.

Miss Mortimer had finished her last quarte at school, and had returned home to assist he she replied. " just about sufficient to furnish a smaller house, and to add to my small in-come by letting a part in lodgings." " And pray what do the rent and taxes of this house amount to?" demanded Mr. Os-wald " " About one hundred pounds per annum," replied Mrs. Mortimer. " Umph!" said Mr. Oswald; and after cogitating for a moment, he added, " why not make a trial of this house? I know a gentleman who pays about aix guineas per weak for furnished lodgings in an hotel—re-ally inferior to these—and I am sure he would gladly pay four guiness for a first-floor in such mother, or to go into the world as a gover

ever proved," said Mrs. Mortimer; " and you mote his interest. Nay, I shall consider it my have my permission to ' woo and win the girl.' At the sametime, I candidly assure you that I neither can nor will control her in the choice of a husband "

"Much as I love her, I would not, if I could, compel her to accept my hand," replied Mr. Oswald ; "I thank you, my dear madam,

prehension of a rejection from Mary, who had ever entertained towards him the most affectionate regard, and who never appeared so truly delighted as when contributing to his amusement ; after all what was the disparity of age ? argued the enamored Oswald : for-

Though I look old, yet am I strong and lusty ; For in my youth I never did apply Hot and rebellions liquors in my blood, Nor did not with unbashful forehead woo The means of weakness and debility ; Therefore my age is as a lusty winter, Frosty, but kindly. Still, he felt that time was precious, and

not to be idly wasted in courtship; consequent-ly he seized the earliest opportunity of declar-ing his passion to the handsome and fascinating Mary. Mrs. Mortimer aided his views by leaving

the lover and her daughter alone. Ardently, but tremblingly the benevolent Mr. Oswald pleaded his cause-for the whole happiness of his future life was centered in that little moment.

Mary seated beside him on the sofa, listen ed with breathless silence to the impassioned words; and when he pressed her cold hand and craved her answer, and she turned her face towards him, her beautiful blue eyes were suffused in tears and the blooming rose of her cheeks had faded.

"Kindest of friends," said Mary, " if you only knew what I now suffer, all your love would be changed to pity! Do not think that I have wantonly played with your feelings. For my mother's sake I felt grateful even while you were unknown. Knowing you I could not fail to esteem you, and must confess I wished to be honored by your esteem in re-turn, and used my best abilities to gain it. But, oh l sir, before I knew you I had plight-

ed my troth to another." "Enough!" cried Mr. Oswald rising and forcing himself to assume a calmness, while drops of agony started upon his brow. "Misa Mortimer, pardon an eld fool for causing you so much trouble, and forget him."

some time, and apologising for the haste in which he had left town without being able to take leave &c., and concluding with compliments to Miss Mortimer.

Mary, who had never before communicated her pre-engagement to her mother, now con-fessed that she had formed an attachment with

As editor, "out West," thus talks to his non-paying subscribers and patrons. If his appeal does not bring the "pewter," we think he need never try again. "Friends, Patrons, Subscribers and Ad-

vertisers : Hear us for our debts, and get ready that you may pay; trust us, we are in need, and have regard for our need, for you have been long trusted; acknowledge your indebtedness, and dive into your pockets, that you may promptly fork over. If there that you may promptly fork over. If there be any among you, one single patron that don't owe us something, then, to him we say: "step aside—consider yourself a gentleman." If the rest wish to know why we dun them, this is our answer: "Not that we care about each ourselves, but our creditors po." Would you rather that we go to jail, and you go free, than you pay your debts, and we all keep moving? As we agreed, we have worked for you : as we contracted, we have furnished our paper to you; as we promised, we have waited upon you, but, as you don't pay, we dun you! Here are agreements for job work; contracts for subscription; promises for long cridits; and duns for defiered payment. Who is there so mean that he don't take a paper? If any, he needn't speak—we don't mean him. Who is there so green that don't advertise? If any, let him slide—he ain't the chap either. Who is there so had that he don't pay the printer? If any let him shout—for he's the man we're after. His name is Legion, and he's been owing us for one, two, three, four, five, six, seven and eight years—long enough to make us poor and himself rich at our expense. If the above appeal to his conscience doesp't awake him to a sense of justice, we shall have to try the law and see what virtue there is in writs and constables.

looking man inumediately started to his feet. and, addressing Mr. Hill in reply, said : "No sir, it aren't the devil as is doing it; it's a fat woman wot's fainted; and she's a werry fat 'un. sir, as don't seem likely to come to again in a hurry." "Oh, that's it, is it ?" observed Mr Hill, drawing his hand across his chin ; "then I have the lader pardon and the dwil's mo

