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#### A Ballad of the Hours.

The laughing, laughing summer-time Came dancing o'er the plains As if she would in merry mood Keep step with April rains.

There was a little cottage stood, Half-hidden from the view, And there she told the birds to sing

The sweetest songs they know. For there in peace and quietness A gray-haired woman dwelt, And toiled to earn her daily bread

As years slow came and went. She loved beside the open door To sit at close of day, And watch the sunset glories

As they slowly paled away. And once when twilight shadows O'er hill and dale were spread. Through memory's haunted chambers She walked with reverent tread.

When, lifting up her eyelids, She saw amid the gloom A dim and mystic company
Were circling round the room.

They clasped their hands together And they sang, "The Hours are we, Come from your past existence To bear you company."-

Their voices were like singing, Or the chimes of silver bells; And some were crowned with amaranth, And some with asphodels.

Names, half forgot, they chanted, And long-lost ringing laughter, With which her own once blended,

Like echoes, followed after. One little sprite came near her With noiseless, tripping tread, Had slowly reaching forth his hand

He laid it on her head. "This hair is very white," said he,

"But I remember well When it around your shoulders Like captured sunbeams fell. "I've seen you thase the butterflies And clasp your hands in glee; come from your lost childhood—
Do you remainber me?"—

Then a heart-chord long since silent At the master touch awoke, And tears rose to her fuded eyes, Though not a word she spoke.

Then another form approached her, Oh, very fair was he; His robes were like the sunshine

Which glitters on the sea. He waved a wreath of roses, And he danced around her chair,

And sang, "For you I painted Such pictures in the air. "I made your life a joyous song To dancing measure set—

You surely do remember me? You never can forget ?"-Sadly the woman answered, Your face I well do know.

But the picture which you painted All faded long ago." Then another stood beside her

In simple raiment drest, But, in her sweet humility, e far outshone the Said she, "You form of brightness,

Arched rainbows o'er your head, I took them down and gave you.
The clear blue sky instead.

"You sadly missed the rainbows, For the tears were in your eyes, And you could not see an angel Through all my dark disguisc.

"Now tell me while I linger, Am I a welcome guest, Though once I walked beside you In Sober raiment drest ?"-

"Though from my heart's bright garden, The woman softly said, "You took some gorgeous blossoms, You left Heart's-Ense instead."

Then very low and tenderly Another voice did say, "Do you remember me? I came

Upon your wedding-day. "The old church bells sent merrily Their glad notes every where, Like a thousand benedictions

Soft pulsing through the air. Then where the moon shone brightest She raised her wasted band And showed a name, deep graven, On a slender golden band.

Said she, "Where yonder willow Waves in the darkness lone, A name like this is written

Upon a marble stone. "That grave is very lovely, But wherefore should I weep That God, in His compassion,

Gives his beloved sleep? "A little while I journey on Among these shadows dim : For, though he can not come to me,

I sure can go to him."—— With a glory resting 'round him A Stranger Form drew near :

But the wondrous words he uttered None but herself might hear. Her hands she meekly folded,

And done with earthly strife. She said, "Thou, too, art welcome, O Last-Hour of my life."

Then, like one whose work is finished, Her hands across her breast, She calmly closed her eyes and slept. In Death's serenest rest.

And the phantom train together Passed through the open door, And in the little cottage

There was silence avermore.

Women were born, so fate declares, To smooth pur linen and onr cares; And 'tis but just, for by my troth, They're very apt to rulle both.

#### PERILS OF A SCOUT.

Among the scouts sent out during the be taken care of. own words.

came upon a party of rebel cavalry. They commanded me to halt. I replied by firing my revolver at the foremost, and then putting spurs to my horse galloped away, but the rebels were not disposed so casily to loose their prey, and they followed, all going at a break neck pace, and ed, all going at a break neck pace, and they firing upon me as they could get near enough. Presently I perceived a pathway in the woods, that led off from the main road. Into this path I turned my was knew a great battle was commonced. horse, as I though the trees would afford me a better chance to escape them and their bullets. My horse was fleet and used to brush, and I gained on them a little. I began to think my chance was accordingly. My canteen had not been to think my chance was accordingly. My canteen had not been the didea that they were exempt. This put a flee in my car. I knew they were cowards, and I determined to manage them ards, and I determined to manage them ards, and I determined to manage them are specified by the canteen had not been the cheat. Perceiving me, he sum out:

"Bay, Bill, this d—d Yankee's too done the manage them ards, and I determined to manage them are specified by the cheat. Perceiving me, he sum out:

"Bay, Bill, this d—d Yankee's too done the manage them are specified by the cheat." little. I began to think my chance was accordingly. My canteen had not been with him? Have we been here all night? tolerable, when I came to a large tree taken from me, and, as luck would have Lord! What will the old General say? that had blown down directly across my path, and when I attempted to lcap it, my horse stumbled and fell, throwing me off and before I could remount the rebels me a few days before to take occasionally voice, 'We've been drunk here all night.

were upon me. 'Surrender!' shouted a sergeant, 'surender, you d-d blue bellied Yankee, or

I'll blow your heart out!' And he pointed his revolver at me,

'See here, old covy,' said I, 'put up 'See here, old covy,' said I, 'put up drink it, or you'll be so drunk, soon, that your popgun, and take me prisoner if you like, but don't murder a fellow in that barbarous manner.'

All right boys,' said I, 'help yourself.'

barbarous manner.' Of course I was a prisoner, and that it was the better part of valor to fall in and trust to chance and strategy to get me out. So I was in line, toted up to the rebel camp, and brought before the notorious Stonewall. The General eyed me about one minute, and then said:

'Ah,' said the General, 'You don't seem to have a very exalted opinion of your

Why should I have?' said I. I've lost and suffered a good deal in that same the password!' Yankee nation.'

That's strange said the General. Don't far routed him that he muttered: the Union officers treat their soldiers

'They're like all other officers,' said I, 'They're like all other omeers, said 1, 'good and bad among them; but that's not where the shoe pinches. To make a long story short, although I live in Virlong story short, although I live in Virlong were fast asleep. The place where we long story short, although I live in Virlong were was in a deep gully in the woods, kets to carry. However, I got safely over was in a deep gully in the woods, kets to carry. However, I got safely over was in a deep gully in the woods, kets to carry. Union cause, but the beggarly Lincon camp. My purpose was soon fixed. I musket was leveled at me, and a clear ites wouldn't believe it; so they fed their swapped clothes with one, which was voice rung out: troops on my granary and cupboard till considerable trouble, as he was as flimsy 'Stand I who goes there? I was about ruined, and when I wanted considerable trouble, as he was as flimsy pay they told me I was a fool, and said if as a rag; but I succeeded at last in makglad to aid the Government. One day buttoned up in Yankee regimentals. one of the officers told me if I would enlist they would think better of me, and instead of destroying my property would protect it. So the upshot of it was I was

compelled to enlist to save my property. 'That's a plausible story,' said the General, 'but not a very probable one. -Why did'nt you come into our lines at once if you wanted protection?'

'That's just what I'm coming at,' said I. I was sent out with a scouting party the prisoner were both so drunk I could so I kept on scouting till I got within do nothing with them. your lines and was taken by your cavalry. 'Take care, young man,' said the Gen-cral sternly; 'I understand you attempted to escape.'

This was a poser; but as I had get under way, I thought I must try and make the ripple. I felt tolerable streaked about the result, too, but I said, earn-

'Of course I did. Who wouldn't with a half dozen horses and bullets after him? I hadn't time to say surrender, and besides the officer cursed, me. I don't like to be cursed, it's against my principles; and then I was mighty mad to see such beastly cowards, that I half made up my nut and one in Yankee blue, as I had mind to get away from both sides and go to Canada.

The General looked at me and then at his staff, and they all smiled, while I looked as sober as a deacon. I had heard that the General was a pious old fellow, and I thought this would tickle him.

'Are you willing,' said he, 'to take the figlit in our cause!'

if I am not protected in my rights. I twice I was hailed by the rebel pickets, want my property respected.

'Where do you live?' asked he.

nice property up there, and I want it to woods before me, and I felt certain that

battles of the Potomac, was Dick B., of Well, said the General, we are going battles of the Potomac, was Dick B., of Ohio. He had seen some perilous and up that way shortly, and, whether you go the piece of woods. I saw something that thrilling adventures among the rebels, with us or not, we will protect your prop-completely took all exultation of my de-which cannot be better told than in his your offer, but for the present, as the many a perilous position. I have had I was out scouting, with three or four evidences are against you, you will be bayonets, bullets, and bowies rummaging others, when we got seperated, and on including placed under guard, for you Yankees are around in the region of my loyal bosom;

> know how to use it.' for fear that I should be recaptured, a guard of two was detailed to take me far back to the rear. We could distinctly hear the thundering of the cannon, and I overheard the guard chuckling at the this was accomplished I appeared to take house. You stay and see to him while I long swigs at the canteen. At last the boys got a smell of the whiskey, and one

And he pointed his revolver at me, of them turning to me, said:

Look here, Yankee, that whiskey smells mighty good. Let us help you

They did help themselves. The beggarly rebels soon finished the whiskey,

morphine and all. It tastes mighty bitter,' said one .what's in it?'

Quinine, said I. 'I always put quinine in my whiskey this time o' year.?

turn row-you guard us. Don't leaveor-by G-d, I'll shoot you when-wake

But hold on, said I! how do you ex-

By vigorous strokes and punches, I so

'Rattlesnake l' ical 'open sesame' that was to give me there was no other way of conveyance, I there is no beer in the jug?' Taking his arms I hurried away. When road, and had no sconer done so than I saw a sound of rebel soldiers.

'Halt !' was the word, which I responded to with soldierly precision. What are you doing here ?' asked the

Licutenant commanding. I told him that two of us were guard-

'That's a h—ll of a story,' replied the Lieutenant. 'I believe you are some off your head on suspicion. And he raised his sword.

'Let him prove what he says by showsquad.

At this they all laughed, supposing I same regiment that I did. was bluffed. But when I readily assented to this they followed me cautiously, however as I suppose they feared I was leading them into ambush. When the Licutenant saw the men one in butterrepresented, he gave each a hearty kick, and said:

Well this is a h-ll of a mess. What are you going to do about it?'

'Going to hunt a wagon and have them carried on, said I. This was satisfactory, and we parted.

oath of allegiance to the confederacy, and Finding that it would not do to take the genteel to keep a school. road I skulked around the woods all day. "To be sure,' said I; 'I told you before When night came I took, as I supposed not genteel to be a sailor. that I had been trying to get into your a rout that would lead me to the Union lines. But I don't wan't to fight for you camp. All night I climbed the hills- genteel to cut your fuel. hut 'rattlesnake' carried me safely by .- | genteel to cook and bake. Just at daylight I discovered a Camp. I

it was the Federal Camp. too slippery to be trusted with too much but never, in all my life was I so astonturning a bend in the road, I suddenly liberty. Events show that you don't ished, chagrined so utterly taken down. There, in the bottom of a broad ravine, After this I was kept under guard, and not ten stops from me, lay the two drunk- is a hateful curse—a hateful vice. Never

"Fourteen miles in fifteen days, And never looked behind him."

One of the guard was sitting up, and endeavoring to rouse the supposed prisoner; for he was still too much stupefied to I was the first to see it."

me a few days before, to take occasionally and I am going to report before he wakes this I slipped into the canteen. After up, or they will have us in the guard

> 'No, let us wake the devilish lubber up lawsuits." and take him to where we are going to. But blame me if I know where that is .-

Don't go.' 'But I will,' said I; and hurrying away I was soon out of sight. This day I hid going to school was accosted by a man myself in a hollow tree, and, when night carrying an axe. The man calls the boy came, I took a good look at the stars, and all kinds of pretty and endearing names getting my bearings, started again for the and induces him to enter a yard where Union Camp. I several times came on there is a grindstone. the rebel pickets, but the 'rattlesnake' there's no knowing when to believe what they say. I thought the Yankees could out lie any other nation, but hang me out lie any other nation, but hang me war, playing the rebel of course, and talk- "when anybody flatters me I always thot

matter, he was unarmed. 'Now, you beggarly whelp,' said I,as I enatched his gun and sprung away from

you in a minute. ou in a minute.'
The fellow was scared, sure, and lost no time in getting out of my sight. It was now growing light, and I found myself jug before his father. I had no doubt but that was the mag- Federal camp far in the distance. As

I got through the woods I came into a where I could get something to eat and nity, can make a loaf of bread or play some dry clothes. I had no doubt but "Bridget" in ma's kitchen with equal he believed this, and would immediately readiness. comply; but the answer was an ominious

click of the trigger. 'I believe you're a real Butternut Reb-

give you a pop, anyhow.'
'But I ain't,' said I

muskets?' said ho. I saw my fix, and hungering dripping - d Yankee spy. I've a mind to clip and shivering as I was, I stood before that grinning musket till I had told my story. friends on the one hand, and bitter haters Finally upon my giving him the names on the other, gives evidence that there is of our Colonel and Captain, and mention- something of the bold independent, uping us the men, suggested one of the ing several other matters familiar to him right man in his composition; while the

> GENTILITY.—Genteel it is to have soft hands, but not genteel to work on lands. he said, playfully, to his little girl, 'Let Genteel it is to lie abed, but not gen. me wind your nose up.1 'No,' said she teel to earn your bread.

Genteel it is to cringe and bow, but want it to run all day.', not genteel to sow and plow.

gentcel to reap and mow. genteel to hoe and dig. Genteel it is in trade to fail, but not in danger of falling.

genteel to swing a flail. Genteel it is to play the fool, but not

Genteel it is to fight a duel, but not siderately refrained from saying anything Genteel it is to eat rich cake, but not

'At Phillippi,' said I 'and I've got a could see the tents twinkle through the genteel to wear thick shoes.

GOOD RULES FOR ALL.-Profane wearing is abominable. Vulgar language is disgusting. Inquisitiveness is offensive. Tattling is mean.

Telling lies is contemptible. Slander is disgraceful. Laziness is shameful. Avoid all the above vices and aim at usefullness. This is the road by which to become respectable. Walk in it .--Never be ashamed of honest labor. Pride

A Boy's LAWSUIT .- Under a great tree, close to the village, two boys found

a walnut. "It belongs to me," said Ignatiur, "for

"No it belongs to me," cried Bernard. 'for I was the first to pick it up," and so they began to quarrel in earnest.

"I will settle the dispute," said an older boy, who had just come up. He placed himself betweeen the two boys, broke the nut in two, then said:

"The one piece of shell belongs to him who first saw the nut; the other piece of shell belongs to him who first picked it up, but the kernel I keep for judging the case. And this he said, as he sat down and laughed "Is the common end of most

"Axe grinding" is a term borrowed from one of the most charming stories told by Benjamin Franklin. A little boy

"Now, my pretty little fellow," says snaked me along without, any trouble; all the man with the axe, Conly turn that but one, the last one I came to. He was handle and you'll see something pretty." a sprightly little fellow, and appeared to The boy turns, and the man pours water about one minute, and then said:
Well sir they tell me you are a yankee spy.'

Whew! thought I, this is more than I bargained for; but I was determined to put a jolly face on the matter, and I said you rebels are such blamed listed where but you rebels are such blamed listed where the put you rebels are such blamed listed where the put you rebels are such blamed listed where the put you rebels are such blamed listed where you are a yankee ship of the put it was determined to have me go with him over it until the axe is ground. Stright-to drunk, to walk, and so they tumbled down, and they did not get up avail, so at last I agreed to power it until the axe is ground. Stright-to headquarters. I could think of but it was of no avail, so at last I agreed to power it until the axe is ground. Stright-to headquarters. I could think of but it was of no avail, so at last I agreed to power it until the axe is ground. Stright-to way he turns with a loud voice and fierce gesture on the boy: "You abandoned little misoreant," he cried, "what do you mile, and, during that time engaged him in conversation about the affairs of the war. playing the rebel of course, and take them, and I soon had the be determined to have me go with him to be dete

'My son,' said a father, 'take that jug,

and fetch me some beer.' 'Give me the money, then, father.' My son, to get beer with money, anyhim, fabout face, and put, or I'll shoot body can do that; but to get beer without money, that's a trick.

So the boy takes the jug and out he Drink, says the boy.

'How can I drink,' said the father, when 'To drink beer out of a jug,' says the boy, where there is beer, anybody can do that; but to drink beer out of a jug

The Western newspapers are in extacies over a young lady on Rook Prairie, This I knew was a Union picket; so I seventeeen years old, who drives her pay they told me I was a fool, and said if ing the exchange, and had the satisfactory told him I had been taken prisoner, and father's reaping team and frequently takes a load of grain to market (fifteen miles) without eating; and I wanted him to let and sells it. She plays the piano, does me go, or take me at once into camp the honors of the drawing room with dig-

> Paddy's description of a fiddle cannot be excelled: 'It was a thing of the shape el, said the picket, and I've a notion to of a turkey, and the size of a goose; a man laid hould of the orature, turned it over on its back, and then he scraped its What are you doing with them butter-belly with a stick until he made the cranut regimentals on then, and them two ture squale; and och! St. Patrick! how

> it squaled !' - He who, by his conduct, makes good he was satisfied, for he belonged to the chicken hearted, imbecile character is capable of making neither friends nor foes.

A father was winding his watch, when 'Idont want my nose wound up, for I don't

Chicago, it is stated, is at the mercy Genteel it is to play the beau, but not of the rats which infest the large graneries of that locality. In many portions of Genteel it is to keep a gig, but not the city, the foundations of the largest buildings are mined by the rats and are

A Western editor complains that his poverty came very near being exposed to Gentcel it is to cheat your tailor, but to the world. A pickpocket relieved him of his purse, but unexpectedly and conabout its contents.

We are apt to hate them who Genteel it is to have the blues, but not won't take our advice and despise them